

The story behind the musically
talented Brody baristas

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to transplant between
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COURTESY OF ASHISH KUMAR
Students took a break from studying to watch fireworks erupt in front of Gilman Hall in celebration of the ninth annual Lighting of the Quads ceremony.

School spirit shines at Lighting of the Quads

By LAUREN YEH
Staff Writer

At 9 o'clock on Tuesday evening, the Hopkins community celebrated the ninth annual Lighting of the Quads. More than 863

students RSVPed for the event on Facebook, and by 8:45 p.m. hundreds of students had gathered on Keyser Quad for what has become an anticipated Hopkins tradition.

Sponsored by the Hop-

kins Parents Fund, the Student Government Association (SGA), the Residential Advisory Board (RAB) and the Office of the Dean of Student Life, the event kicked off with a speech by SGA Executive Presi-

dent Alex Schupper on the steps of Gilman Hall. He was followed by President Ronald J. Daniels, who did the honors of lighting the quads.

Hot drinks, including hot cocoa and cider, as well as a selection of cookies and donuts, were available at tables on the quad. The beverages quickly ran out.

For early birds, the
SEE LIGHTING, PAGE A5

261 Graduate students resist University's plan

By ELLEN BRAIT
Editor-in-Chief

A group of graduate students in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences are rallying to protest the implementation of a plan that will introduce major changes to the graduate program. The school's Strategic Planning Final Report was released on Nov. 11 to graduate students, who responded with a comprehensive Strategic Plan Response.

Signed by 261 graduate students as of press time, the response asks the administration to halt any progress on the plan until the students are able to provide their input. They have found issue with the proposed cut backs of graduate students by up to 25 percent, decreased hiring of tenured professors and fewer faculty-taught

graduate classes, amongst other things.

The plan states that competitive recruitment at the graduate level is a top priority, and that the School of Arts and Sciences needs to offer its students better funding packages so that it is able to compete for the very best talent.

"The core piece of this as regards to graduate programs was a plan to increase graduate students stipends from their current levels, which are lagging about 40 percent be-

hind some of our top peers and bring them up to that level by next year for the incoming classes," Vice Dean of Graduate Education William Egginton said.

The plan proposes to increase graduate stipends to \$30,000 per year, \$25,000 for the nine-month academic year and \$5,000 for the summer months.

SEE GRADUATE, PAGE A5

HopSecret unmask hidden side of Hopkins

By EMILY HERMAN
Staff Writer

Encouraging students to share their anonymous stories, the website HopSecret, run by the Center for Health Education and Wellness (CHEW), has spotlighted issues including depression, sexual assault and general hopelessness among the student body.

HopSecret, a spin-off of popular confessional website PostSecret, has been active since February 2012. The page posts the entries that it receives on a weekly basis.

Alanna Biblow, a health educator at CHEW and the site's administrator, periodically promotes HopSecret through the University's daily announcements and has updated the site in response to student

SEE HOPSECRET, PAGE A4

Christian group offers staff thanks and prayers

By ELI WALLACH
News & Features Editor

Just three days before Thanksgiving on Nov. 25, student members of the Bethel Campus Fellowship (BCF) hosted an event dedicated to showing appreciation to those who work on the Homewood campus. The event, titled "Saved to Serve," featured BCF members dispersing in three groups to different areas of the University in search of workers to whom they could give their gratitude.

"The purpose of this is event was to just reach out to the people whom we feel like go unappreciated and unnoticed on campus, which includes the janitors, the campus security members, those that sit inside the buildings and those who stand outside the buildings," junior Felicia Onuma, welfare coordinator for the BCF chapter at Hopkins and one of the principle organizers of the event, said.

As a way of showing their appreciation, members of BCF prepared cup-

cakes to distribute to the workers whom they approached. In addition to these sweets, BCF members also provided spiritual support.

"We also gave them the verse Isaiah 65, verse 24, which basically talks about the fact that God hears their prayers even before they ask for anything and God knows their hearts and is willing to answer even before they call," Onuma said. "And so we took prayer requests from them in the case that they were willing to give prayer requests. And sometimes we actually prayed for them on the spot as well."

Many members of BCF reported that the event was successful.

"They were really appreciative of what we were doing," Onuma said. "The ones that we met ... remarked that this was not something they were used to."

In one case, senior and BCF Secretary Amanda Onyeweanyi stumbled upon a worker who
SEE BCF, PAGE A4

Reddit co-founder talks Internet age

By NICOLE ZIEGLER
Staff Writer

The Johns Hopkins Innovation Factory, the JHU Association for Computing Machinery and StartUP! Hopkins hosted Alexis Ohanian, co-founder of web platform Reddit, for a talk in Shriver Hall on Tuesday evening.

Ohanian came as part of a book tour, which will travel to 77 colleges throughout the United States and Canada, for his new book *Without Their Permission: How the 21st Century Will Be Made, Not Managed*. Though there was a

long delay before the event got underway, Ohanian drew a large crowd that filled more than half of the auditorium.

Ohanian's remarks focused primarily on the vast opportunities that the college-aged generation will have with the rise of the Internet. He urged the crowd to pursue their dreams and

utilize the opportunities the college-aged generation has at their fingertips to achieve success. Ohanian highlighted the importance of being active in pursuing one's ideas.

"The difference between those of us who just have great ideas, and those of us who change the world are

SEE REDDIT, PAGE A4



GUI HUBNER/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Co-founder of Reddit, Alexis Ohanian (right), interviews Hopkins alumnus Ralph Gootie (left).

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NEWS & FEATURES

Brody baristas brew up coffee with a splash of song

By DEVIN ALESSIO
For The News-Letter

Your coffee order is music to Ryan Botwinik's ears. No, seriously — the Daily Grind's newest barista is largely the reason the Brody Learning Commons Café's employees have taken to singing their customers' coffee orders this semester.

Hopkins students aren't complaining, either.

"When I'm drowning in homework late at night, their silly songs keep me in check," junior Alexandra Brown said.

The baristas are glad to be shaking things up a bit in Brody.

"I think singing while working is a tradition that dates back to prehistoric times. In every restaurant I've ever worked in, all of the employees have sung their customer's orders. It makes the day go by faster, relieves stress and it's fun," Botwinik, who had worked at the Daily Grind's first coffeehouse in Fells' Point before coming on board at the café's location on the Homewood Campus this October, said.

"I like to sing SAMO-SAAAAAS after I put them on the counter best," he said.

It should come as no surprise that Botwinik has musical experience, too: He was once the vocalist of the punk band Mail Order Brides.

Botwinik left his original position at the Daily Grind in order to work in a Baltimore homeless shelter as a substance abuse counselor. When he got frustrated with the bureaucracy surrounding the position, he decided to go back to work for his former Daily Grind boss while studying to become a licensed barber.

"I really like my co-workers," he said. "I have so much fun in this environment where I can be my insane self."

Barista Ben Starr has worked at the Daily Grind since August and is a fan of the social environment at the café.

"Everyone's studying and getting drinks here all the time. I feel like I know the majority of the student body since I've started working here," Starr said. "I live in Hampden and recognize students as I walk to and from work each day."

Starr graduated with a music degree from Swarthmore College in 2012. While at Swarthmore, he performed with Sixteen Feet, the college's all-male *a cappella* group.

He has since worked as the choir director and organizer at the Trinity United Church of Christ in Carroll County. Don't expect to see him at any Hopkins *a cappella* concerts though: Starr is trying to draw a line between his work and campus life.

Joshua Hunt, another barista, admits he started singing because of his co-workers.

"I always sing because Ben and Ryan will make up a song, and it gets into your head! I never know what we're going to sing next: one night we went through old, grunge Nirvana songs, one night we sang only Elvis, the next, Bobby Womack's '110th Street,'" he said.

Hunt and Starr often sing their own version of the song, "Don't Drop that Thun Thun," and play music in the back stock room to get pumped up for work.

Though Hunt has sung in his church choir, unlike Botwinik and Starr, he has never professionally pursued music. He has worked at the Daily Grind since it opened in Brody and previously worked at Café Q. Though he thinks his new job is just as fun as his last on Q-level, Hunt likes that the baristas can sing and be loud in the spacious digs in Brody.

Hunt would like to wish all Hopkins students best of luck on final exams on behalf of all of the baristas.

"If I have a tired face this week... just know it's because you all are drinking too much coffee!" he said.

By AMANDA AUBLE
Staff Writer

Right in the nick of time to ease the stress of finals period, Johnny Dough, a late-night baked goods delivery service created and managed by Hopkins seniors Jimmy Lin and Christina Socias, will begin accepting online orders at midnight on Dec. 9.

With operating hours from 12 a.m. to 4 a.m. on Saturday nights during the regular semester and every night during finals period, this completely student-run service promises to provide hungry Hopkins students with warm, freshly baked goodies during late night study sessions.

Founders Lin and Socias are debuting their business this semester, but the duo have been friends since sophomore year. Socias, an International Studies major headed for a career in finance, and Lin, a Biomedical Engineer planning to attend medical school, may have different interests, but they feel the same about the limited availability of late-night snacks at Hopkins.

"We really just wanted to provide a service for Hopkins students because we realize that there's just such a lack of food options open late at night when students are studying," Lin said.

To solve the problem of missing munchies on campus, the pair turned to their own baking experience for inspiration.

"When we study together we often bake cookies, and we have family recipes from scratch. We thought 'this is really good' and we gave [the cookies] up to our friends. We thought 'Hey, why not share this with all of Hopkins?'" Lin said.

Starting at midnight next Wednesday, students can log on to Johnny Dough's website, www.johnnydoughcookies.square-space.com, to place orders.

Johnny Dough will require customers to purchase a minimum of \$7 worth of

goodies to place an order, but delivery is free.

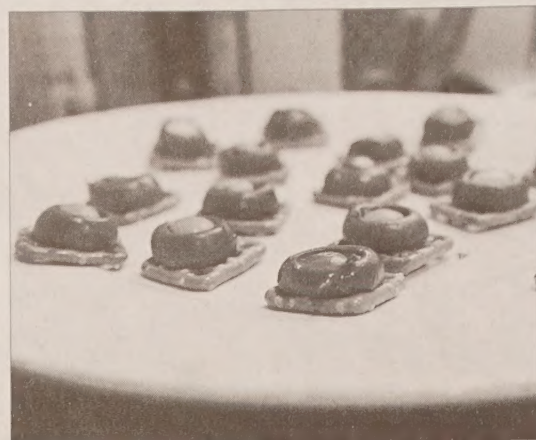
Using their own cars and bikes, the Johnny Dough staff plans to deliver to the Homewood Campus student residence halls, the Brody café area and the Gilman Hall atrium. Off-campus delivery locations will include row-houses and apartments between 30th and 39th Streets west of Guilford Avenue.

Some of the treats featured on the menu include

that the entrepreneurs hope will help students cope during stressful late night study hours.

"I like the chocolate covered peanuts," Socias said. "It's really simple when you think that it's just a peanut with chocolate on it, but they are just really good. That's a family recipe that I grew up with so I'm excited to introduce the chocolate covered peanut to everyone else."

Even though Lin and Socias do not have that many



JOHNNYDOUGHCOOKIES.SQUARESPACE.COM
The small business's "Chiqui's Pretzel Bites" will sell for two dollars.

chocolate chip cookies, peanut butter and Hershey kiss cookies, chocolate pretzel bites and chocolate covered peanuts. Johnny Dough also offers signature Hopkins blue chocolate chip cookies, which are coated in blue sprinkles.

"Our menu is going to be changing because we're just starting, but as of now our main thing is the chocolate chip cookie. It's a traditional, hot chocolate chip cookie that's homemade, everything is homemade. And the idea going off of that is what we [also] like to think are good sweet and salty study snacks," Socias said.

The recipes are simple and the treats are classics

final exams as seniors, they are working on maintaining strict time management in order to successfully launch their business. This includes getting school work done during the day in order to begin baking later in the evening.

"For different products we'll start the night of, but we can also start the day before, not actually baking them but making the dough and getting the dough ready, but it's all fresh so it will definitely be within 48 hours," Socias said.

The service will launch at one of the most stressful times of the year for students, but the founders feel they are well-prepared.

"We're not that stressed out," Lin said.

Along with providing warm comfort food for late-night snackers on campus, Johnny Dough also aspires to help students get involved.

"We also thought that if we plan on growing and hopefully, when we have a presence on campus, we can eventually hire students and get students involved that way," Socias said.

At the moment, the Johnny Dough staff is small and composed only of Lin and Socias's close friends. The company hopes to expand in the future and continue to offer the small business experience to students.

"I've had a lot of internships trying to find jobs and get experience, and it would be awesome if we could help students get experience working with a business," Socias said. "So that's one of our goals — to employ Hopkins students and be just all-students."

As finals approach, Johnny Dough plans to advertise by offering free samples on campus.

"Feedback has been really positive," Socias said. "The average response is 'Oh wow that's a really good idea. I could see myself ordering cookies.'"

As Hopkins students become more familiar with the business, Lin and Socias have begun to respond to students' thoughts.

"We receive suggestions too, like someone told us about gluten-free cookies, and now we're looking to include gluten-free recipes as well," Lin said. "That's a great thing because we're trying to provide this service for Hopkins students. We're free for suggestions and welcome any feedback."

After break, Johnny Dough plans to resume baking during intersession.

"We would love to continue this as long as there's a demand," Socias said.

LGBT intelligence workers talk CIA jobs

By SARI AMIEL
Staff Writer

Two members of the Central Intelligence Agency came to campus to speak on Tuesday evening to the Hopkins chapter of oSTEM about their experiences as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people working in the fields of science and technology.

"The reason we're here is if you are perhaps interested in a CIA career, don't self-select out of that opportunity just because you think that the agency might not be a place to work if you are LGBT," Kristen, a chemist at the CIA who declined to give her last name, said.

She began by talking about her experiences, both as an employee at the CIA and as a member of the LGBT community. She majored in chemistry at James Madison University and then studied in a polymer chemistry program at Virginia Tech. Later, as a CIA employee, she decided not to discuss her sexuality until recently when she came out and joined the Agency Network of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Employees (ANGLE), an LGBT group at the CIA.

"I have the ability to potentially have a direct impact on things that are happening in the world," she said about her job at the CIA.

Roger, another CIA agent who also declined to give his last name, spoke as well. He, in contrast, was open about his sexual orientation for years and was undaunted when people expressed disapproval of his lifestyle.

The two CIA employees

spoke to about 15 members of oSTEM in Gilman Hall. They brought markers, pens and pamphlets containing information about careers at the CIA. oSTEM is a national society that is aimed at integrating LGBT students into careers in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. The University's chapter, which has around 30 members, is relatively new.

"The chapter of Hopkins was founded last year," Allison Tse, a graduate student studying mechanical engineering, said. "We didn't officially start having meetings until this year."

Tse has been a member of the oSTEM board since its founding. She is now the vice president of the chapter.

Earlier this year, Hopkins alumni who are currently employed or in graduate school addressed oSTEM members and described their experiences as LGBT people in the STEM fields. The group also attended an oSTEM conference in October hosted by the oSTEM National Board at Google's offices in New York. 12 oSTEM members from Hopkins attended the conference.

"I'm very big on queer activism, and as a science major, I guess I never really thought that you could combine the science fields and LGBT stuff, and so I thought this was a nice mesh," freshman Rebecca Rivera, a member of oSTEM, said. "I went to the conference in New York, and it was really kind of inspiring because you really can combine LGBT

activism and still be in the science fields."

Junior Dillon Ward, an oSTEM board member who is in charge of community outreach, played a major role in planning Tuesday's event.

Last year, Ward met Michael Barber, the LGBT community outreach and liaison program manager at the CIA, at a Chicago conference called "Out for Work." After starting the Hopkins oSTEM chapter, Ward stayed in touch with Barber, who later helped to bring the LGBT CIA employees to campus.

"[Barber] expressed interest in wanting to come and chat with our group once we started it," Ward said.

Senior Edwin Arzava, who is not an oSTEM member, also attended the event. He is a member of DSAGA, the Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance.

"I'm pretty interested in the CIA and I feel that people out there, because they're gay, feel that they don't have the same opportunities as people that are straight," Arzava said. "[The two speakers] are out in the CIA, and I feel it's good to know that it doesn't matter who you are; you can have the same opportunities," he said.

Overall, Ward enjoyed listening to the CIA members speak about their experiences.

"[The CIA] actually [has] a lot of opportunities for STEM majors that people don't know about," Ward said. "People often think the government is pretty scary, especially for LGBT people...it's cool to know there are people like us that work at the CIA."

Dance Marathon unveils theme for spring

By ELLIE PENATI
Staff Writer

The week before Thanksgiving break, JHU Dance Marathon (DM) had its Reveal Week, kicking off registration and unveiling the theme for its eight-hour long event on March 1.

The group used the week to raise awareness about the event by releasing fun facts about the dance marathon in the spring. Through a promotional video, complete with students acting as gladiators, the club announced that this year's theme would be "CARPE DM". A flash mob on the Breezeway revealed this year's fundraising goal of \$30,000.

In addition to DM's goal of raising \$30,000, they aim to fill their venue — the Glass Pavilion — to capacity with about 350 participants.

"We are growing rapidly and hope to make this year the first really big increase in fundraising," Alexandra Colt, co-president of DM at Hopkins, said.

DM is a nationwide organization, with chapters on various college campuses, which aims to raise funds for the Children's Miracle Network.

DM at Hopkins is an eight-hour long event where students try to stay active on their feet for the duration of the night. Besides dancing, the participants are kept on their

feet through a number of activities including games, raffles, performances, a photo booth and other entertainment.

There are also theme-hours throughout the event to keep the dancers on their feet such as Viva Las Vegas, I Love the 90's, Carpe DM, Luau, Bright and Tight and Wild, Wild West.

"No dance skills are necessary! Dancers need only to register, fundraise for the kids and stay on their feet through DM in March, all the while enjoying the event and the many things we have to offer," co-president of JHU DM Anastasia Pierron said.

In addition to the aims of fundraising and increasing participation, each year DM features "Miracle Children" — children who have been treated at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center (JHCC) and who want to help other kids through their own inspiring stories.

"Another goal of ours this year is to further our relationship with Hopkins Children's and the kids treated there. We have already made huge strides toward that goal by having two Miracle Kids for DM 2014," Pierron said.

One of this year's "Miracle Children" for DM at Hopkins is Anthony, whose last name was withheld in the interest of privacy. At

the age of three, Anthony was diagnosed with leukemia and after three years of chemotherapy treatments he was pronounced cancer free in August 2010. Anthony says he has plans to become a famous NFL player until he gets too old to play, at which point he wants to become a doctor so that he can help other kids beat cancer.

DM at Hopkins began in fall 2010 and has since raised a total of about \$29,000. The funds that DM at Hopkins raises go directly to the local branch of the Children's Miracle Network, at the JHCC.

"DM at Hopkins is relatively very new compared to other schools, and hence, smaller. Our fundraising though is growing very quickly, on par or even ahead of the percentage increases of other new DMs. The nationwide DM community is a very cooperative one and we love sharing ideas and getting support from each other — it is not a competition between schools, but instead a collaborative effort to raise more and more funds for the kids every year," Colt said.

The JHCC uses the funds from DM at Hopkins to support various programs that aid families, children at the hospital and patients entering foster care, such as "Backpacks for Foster Care", "The NICU Car Seat Safety Project" and "Band-Aid Aid."

NEWS & FEATURES

Delegate Mary Washington talks sociology

By OLIVIA DE RAADT
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, Delegate Mary Washington visited Hopkins for the Sociology Department's annual fall luncheon. A graduate of the University's doctoral program in sociology, Washington represents the 43rd legislative district in Baltimore, which includes neighborhoods such as Waverly and Guilford as well as parts of the Homewood Campus. She is seeking reelection next year.

Washington serves on the Maryland House Appropriations Committee and the Education and Economic Development subcommittee. She is also a member of the Baltimore chapter of the NAACP and is the only openly gay black woman in Maryland's state legislature.

"I have a name here in the city as an unabashed progressive Democrat," Washington said, speaking to a room of about 30 sociology professors and students in Mergenthaler Hall.

A proponent of marriage equality and adult GED programs, Washington believes in developing stronger schools, creating more job opportunities and bettering living conditions for those living in the 43rd district of Baltimore. She is also known for passing a piece of legislation, which prohibited employers from asking potential employees for their Facebook passwords as a part of the interview process.

In November 2012, these achievements landed Washington in an *Essence* Magazine article profiling four politicians who had the potential to be the first female, African-American president.

Once an aspiring psychologist, Washington believes her background in sociology has had a significant impact upon her political career.

"My decision to have the intellectual training of a sociologist has really opened up a lot of doors for me. It's allowing me to do some good in the world," Washington said.

Washington's dissertation focused on American population statistics of the 19th and 20th centuries with particular emphasis upon race, class and gender. After working and researching at both Lehigh University and the University of Pennsylvania, Washington realized she wanted to participate in more policy-based work.

"I became interested in the people making decisions about things I cared about. And I thought: 'Why don't I do that?'" Washington said.

Today, Washington is one of those decision-makers. When asked what she felt was the most pressing civil issue facing the City of Baltimore, she emphasized unemployment and income inequality.

"People need jobs. The median household income here is — on average — 10 to 15 thousand dollars lower than Baltimore county. It's close to 70 thousand dollars less than Howard county," Washington said.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income between 2007 and 2011 in the City of Baltimore was \$40,100. Howard County, on the other hand, had a median household income of \$105,692. The distance

between Baltimore and Howard County is less than 30 miles.

"To cut to the chase, historical racism is also a major issue. While we can't outlaw that specifically, we can do job interventions. We need to do job interventions," Washington said.

Senior Maria Adebayo was one of the many sociology majors who attended the event. She became interested in sociology the summer before her freshman year, after attending a seven-week program held at Princeton University called Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America (LEDA).

"It really awakened my latent interest in sociology. I was always the person fighting for rights — for human rights and civil rights — but I was still unsure of what kind of career I should choose. It's really about helping the people who can't help themselves, and that's what the program allowed me to realize," Adebayo said.

Adebayo was inspired by Washington's choice to pursue a career in politics, particularly the difficulties of compromise that come along with her job as a delegate.

"The red cage of bureaucracy is very real. She has

to compromise, which is hard. It takes a certain kind of person to do that," Adebayo said.

While many well-known politicians and activists — such as President Ronald Reagan, Martin Luther King Jr, Jesse Jackson and First Lady Michelle Obama — have degrees in sociology, it is rare for an elected official to have a doctoral degree in the subject.

Sociology Department Chair Karl Alexander spends his time researching what makes certain children more likely to stay in school. He has been at Hopkins for over 40 years.

"Mary Washington said there are lot of things you can do with sociology, but as a student I didn't really understand that," Alexander said.

Alexander received his doctoral degree in sociology at UNC Chapel Hill in 1972. He is a member of the American Sociological Association and the American Education Research Association.

"There's a lot to be thinking about, even if you're committed to sociology. You can use your skills in research, the non-profit sector, service delivery or the government," he said.



ELIZABETH CHEN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Members of the Sociology department gather in Mergenthaler for the department's annual fall luncheon.

Pete's Grille's pancake contest finishes in tie

By ALEXIS SEARS
Staff Writer

For the first time in 19 years, there was a tie at the Pete's Grille Annual Pancake Eating Contest.

On Friday, Nov. 22 at 7 a.m., 27 contestants competed in the 22nd annual contest for a \$500 cash prize.

In the women's division, which had 10 contestants, Carolyn Bozman, a Charles Village local and recent graduate of Stevenson University, tied for first place with Hopkins seniors Jessica O'Neil and Catherine Bernstein. Each female contestant consumed nine pancakes.

In the men's division, which had 17 contestants, Nick Farano and Andy Thompson tied with 14 pancakes. Farano, another recent graduate of Stevenson University, now works for the American Cancer Society in Baltimore. Thompson, who is also a Baltimore local, graduated from Davidson College in 2010. The cash prize was split among the winners in each division.

"The whole process just seemed hilarious. Plus I've been going to Pete's since freshman year so it seemed like a nice capstone for my senior year," O'Neil wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

O'Neil prepared for the competition by eating large servings of cabbage and lettuce for dinner.

22 year-old Farano, who has attended the pancake eating competition for the past two years to support his friend and three-year consecutive champion Bozman, had less preparation.

"I didn't really prepare," Farano wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I knew that you have to eat a decent dinner the night before so I did just that. Other [than] that I pretty much winged it!"

No records were set, however, at this year's

contest. The all-time record in the men's division is 18 pancakes, and the all-time female record is 12. But even so, the event attracted a large crowd of Baltimoreans.

"There were cameras, reporters, and a cheering section... my favorite part is giving the contestants the money. It's really exciting to see what they do with it," Dave Stahl, the owner of Pete's Grille, said.

Bernstein, who is applying to lead wilderness therapy trips once she graduates, plans to spend the prize money on a warm jacket. O'Neil is using her share of the winnings to help pay for her flight home for winter break. Farano will use the money to pay for a parking ticket.

"Both [the other male winner, Andy, and I] had our cars towed by the city of Baltimore. It cost us \$282 each to get our cars out. Another male participant also had his car towed. It was very frustrating and disappointing. So we actually lost money. I won \$250 and I spent \$282 to reclaim my car from the city in [addition] to the \$20 entrance fee. In fact, I am in the hole \$52!" Farano wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Several television stations featured the contest. Fox 45 had live coverage and WMAR TV aired a segment on their 30-minute show "The List," which aired at 7 p.m. the following Thursday evening.

O'Neil stated that she does not plan to enter a pancake eating contest anytime soon, but Bernstein felt differently.

"I'd do it again, although I don't think I've ever felt so bad in my life after... I'm a fairly competitive person so I'd probably do it again. Just maybe not with pancakes," Bernstein wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

University prepares for reaccreditation with self-inspection report

By GULNAR TULI
Staff Writer

Faculty, administrators and students across all nine schools of the University are currently engaged in what has been a two-year long project of self-study. This undertaking is in preparation for the University's upcoming reaccreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, a process that occurs once every 10 years.

The process of reaccreditation is important as it both evaluates the quality of a Hopkins education and determines whether students of the University are able to obtain federally funded student loans.

"Accreditation provides vital certification that the programs we run are rigorous and effective, and that the wider world can have confidence in the quality of the degrees we issue," Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Katherine Newman wrote in an email to the University. "As one tangible example of the importance of that confidence, only accredited institutions are eligible to access the federal funds that support student loan programs."

According to President Ronald J. Daniels, reaccreditation is not only significant in its reaffirmation of the University's legitimacy as an educational institution, but it also gives Hopkins an

opportunity to improve itself.

"The reaccreditation and self-study process provide an important opportunity for us to consider how we could make Johns Hopkins even stronger... It's a lot of work, but it's in our own best interest to seize this opportunity," President Daniels wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

The decision as to whether or not Hopkins will receive reaccreditation is ultimately at the discretion of an evaluation team chaired by Thomas Rosenbaum, current provost of the University of Chicago. The team will conduct an on-campus assessment of Hopkins in May of 2014, the basis of which will be the self-study that is currently being redrafted.

Because the self-study plays such a central role in the reaccreditation of the University, its production has combined the efforts of every school at Hopkins. Each of the University's nine schools drafted its own individual self-study, which was then combined by the University-wide Self-Study Steering Committee to create an overarching final report.

Dean Newman recently released an initial draft of the self-study conducted by the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences in an email to the University community. The report follows a standard template released by the

Provost's office, and addresses all 14 of the accreditation standards required, including those regarding institutional resources, leadership and governance, university integrity, student retention, faculty and educational offerings.

According to Professor Matthew Roller, who played a significant role in the drafting of the Krieger School's self-study report, the production of this document was no small task.

"It requires the collecting of an enormous amount of material, of documents and evidence for everything from the financial parts of the University to plans for the building of new facilities... Just trying to find out which person has what information is exhausting in itself," Roller said. "The survey asks about every aspect of the University's operations, sometimes about things that I didn't even know existed."

The Self-Study Steering Committee, which was charged with the task of weaving together all of the individual reports, consists of a mixture of faculty, undergraduate and graduate students and administrators. According to Jonathan Bagger, vice provost and chair of the Steering Committee, members of the committee were selected by the Provost's office in an attempt to get as broad a range of perspectives as

possible.

"Members of the Steering Committee were chosen for different reasons... for instance we have a student from the medical school, a student from SAIS, we have the vice deans, someone from the Ph.D. board... They were basically chosen to cover across the university. We tried to be broad and inclusive," Bagger said.

In addition to addressing the fourteen accreditation-standards required in its self-study, the University has chosen to pay special attention to two particular areas of education: Ph.D. education and the teaching of introductory science courses.

"10 years ago the accreditation focused on undergraduate education, so now seemed like a very natural time to focus on Ph.D. education. Plus, Ph.D. education nationwide is going through a period of great change... people are doing all sorts of things now with their degrees and so it's an opportunity to see what we're doing at Johns Hopkins in the context of the national scale," Bagger said. "As for introductory science courses, there's also been a lot of ferment in education there about new teaching techniques and what's the best way to learn, using methods like hands-on activities and new technologies. Again, it's a good way to look across the entire univer-

sity and focus in on what we can improve on."

Now that the initial draft of the overarching self-study has been completed, the Steering Committee is looking to the Hopkins community to provide feedback on the report. The report is available online, as recently distributed via email by President Daniels and Provost Lieberman to the community and comments are welcome at selfstudy@jhu.edu.

Additionally, town hall meetings are being held across the University's various campuses as a forum for discussion centered on the self-study report. The Homewood campus town hall meeting was held this past Tuesday in Mason Hall, with a turnout that was almost entirely administration and faculty members.

The Steering Committee has not received much student feedback yet, either in the town hall meeting held on Tuesday or through the email account that was set up. This poses a problem for the Steering Committee; according to the vice chair of the Committee, Philip Tang, comments from the community are vital.

"Feedback from the university is critical. The self-study process is designed to be an inclusive process, allowing us to hear from any member of the university community.

We welcome hearing from anyone," Tang wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Though it is not likely that the Middle States Commission on Higher Education will deny Hopkins reaccreditation, it is more probable that the evaluation team will identify problem areas within the self-study that they will then ask the University to re-examine.

"I think it's extremely unlikely that the university will be turned down for reaccreditation, but what I do think could happen is that they pick bones and find areas where they send us back and make us do our homework again," Roller said.

Tang found that his view of Hopkins changed after he became involved in the self-study.

"The committee was prepared to struggle with discussing how such a decentralized university functions effectively as one coherent institution," Tang wrote. "Many of us were surprised to realize how integrated we really are in many ways. Clearly, we're still very decentralized, but I think the report may surprise you in detailing how well we coordinate many functions across the university."

"Not surprising: The process reaffirmed that we are a community of individuals who are extraordinarily committed to and care deeply about our University."

NEWS & FEATURES

Website offers avenue for confessing secrets

HOPSECRET, FROM A1
suggestions, such as the recent addition of comments under each secret to foster online conversation.

"We knew that people felt like they were alone and that they had all these things inside of them," Biblow said. "[HopSecret is] a way for them to funnel those things and let them know that they're not feeling this way by themselves."

The most recent series of posts on HopSecret, published the week of Dec. 2, touch on issues including eating disorders, feeling judged by peers and struggling academically.

HopSecret has over 500 student posts, many of which are from students who are depressed and struggling with school. Despite this, Anna Gilmour, co-director of the peer listening group A Place To Talk (APTT), said that the posts of HopSecret might not accurately represent how students are really feeling.

"[With] only one or two sentences, you don't get to see the full picture of how they're feeling," Gilmour said. "When you talk with somebody, you can talk through their feelings with them and see the bigger picture."

Gilmour and her fellow Co-Director Teona Munteanu both expressed concern that the anonymous nature of the website could enable negative criticism. They cited HopSecret's star system, which allows visitors to rate submissions on a five-star scale from least to most relatable, as a possible source of additional negativity.

"I'm fearful that people might be writing off the things that people are posting because of the forum in which they're posted in, and maybe take them less seriously than they should be taken," Munteanu said.

Freshman Daniel Perez said that the page's posts don't accurately represent his experience at Home-

IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT EVERYONE FEELS LIKE ME?

Sometimes I feel like my only option is to give up. Not in a suicidal way, but just with all of my responsibilities. I'm tired of always playing catch up in every aspect of my life! Its exhausting.

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1. that I was raped
2. where I was raped

but I'll never know who, and I hate you for giving me a problem with no solution.

NEVER

I've never even kissed anyone.

SISTERHOOD

I regret joining my sorority. I thought it would be different than the stereotypes. I've never met so many annoying, catty people in my life.

HOPSECRETS.WORDPRESS.COM

wood.

"In my social interactions, I don't really see it," Perez said. "A lot of [the posts] were about topics like rape and suicide. That's not something I usually talk about among my friends."

Freshman Taylor Veralli agreed with Perez, but also acknowledged that the school's emphasis on academic achievement has a significant impact on student life.

"Even if you don't feel it's competitive for you [personally], it's palpable," Veralli said.

Biblow said that she doesn't believe many students take full advantage of campus resources that help students alleviate stress and manage their heavy workloads.

HopSecret has a subpage that lists resources where students can receive medical help and psycho-

logical counseling, including the contact information for APTT and the University's Counseling Center. Biblow also posts reminders about accessing campus resources when she notices alarming trends among the submissions.

Although Biblow sometimes reaches out to students who submit secrets to encourage them to go to the Counseling Center — the site's submission form allows

students to provide some personal information that is not included in the public post — she has no legitimate way of knowing whether a student has taken her advice and sought help from campus resources.

"I struggle with that [because] it would be interesting to help them to know what [students] have said, but I also want

to respect the students' secrets," Biblow said.

While Dr. Michael Mond, the counseling center director, could not specifically comment about HopSecret or any of the posts on the website, he said that, according to the Counseling Center's records, about 38 percent of undergraduate students will visit the counseling center at least once over their four years at Hopkins.

Mond also said that while about 12 percent of students who visit the Counseling Center have diagnosable psychological disorders, most clients seek advice on adjusting to college life and dealing with everyday challenges.

"It's important for students to develop good coping skills and get an adequate amount of sleep," Mond said.

Mond also said that he was concerned that students who turn to websites like HopSecret for advice are not receiving sufficient support.

"I understand that it's convenient for a lot of students to express their struggles online, but they would probably be better off going to the Counseling Center and having someone talk with them to find strategies to cope," Mond said.

Although Biblow said that she doesn't see HopSecret as a replacement for seeking professional help, she wants students to know that the website is always there as an outlet and a place where students can receive support tips from peers who have had similar experiences.

"If you can't stop thinking about something and you can't sleep, put it out to us and we'll have it," Biblow said. "Sometimes it helps to write something down and get it out of your head. This is one way you can do it."

Christian group expresses gratitude

Bethel Campus Fellowship distributes cupcakes and prayers

BCF, FROM A1
had personally helped her last year. Onyeweunyi remembered the worker for having given her a ride across campus on a rainy day when she was dressed in formal attire for a presentation.

"I'm glad we went up to the car and got to reconnect with him and show him that he is appreciated," Onyeweunyi said.

Onyeweunyi was not the only one happy about the encounter.

"He was very appreciative. He actually said that we made his night. So that was really fulfilling to hear that appreciation from him," Onyeweunyi said. "He definitely felt under-appreciated by the students here, that people overlooked him. So he was really was glad to know that somebody noticed him."

Maria Adebayo, president and founder of the BCF chapter at Hopkins, had the idea for the event two summers ago while she was working as an intern in the Office of Admissions located in Mason Hall.

"I just kept thinking about how I would pass them, and they would just be working tirelessly in the heat and everything," Adebayo said. "And I thought 'well, I need to one day just buy them cupcakes and

just talk to them about God and show that I appreciate them.'"

However, at this time, Adebayo had not yet started the BCF chapter at Hopkins. BCF is a multinational organization dedicated to inspiring students to take on the values and messages of Christ. Adebayo created the group earlier this semester and is now in the process of gaining approval from the Student Government Association. The group meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in Mudd Hall.

"Bethel Campus Fellowship is dedicated to showing the love of Christ to people and just having people walk boldly in their walk with Christ, confidently each and everyday," Adebayo said. "It's about a lifestyle. So its not just a religious experience — but it's more cultural in that it's all around you."

Adebayo was also very happy with how last week's event turned out.

"We were really able to touch people. The first person that we were able to talk to — she was about to cry, just because of us saying 'thank you.' Just being able to say 'thank you' truly goes a long way," Adebayo said.

Adebayo reflected on the event further, emphasizing the importance of

showing appreciation.

"We are always running to our classrooms, trying to get out of the cold. But they are always there. They are always suffering for us, sacrificing for us," Adebayo said. "So the least that we can do, as an organization, is to give an hour of suffering along with them and say 'thank you.'"

Adebayo also showed some disappointment with the level of awareness among Hopkins students about how hard people work to make sure Homewood functions smoothly. To raise awareness, Adebayo encouraged more students to become activists.

"Being an activist is not a job, it's an attitude. It is what is in you. It's a spirit so it is in you for every situation," she said. "You just try to advocate for people all the time, and you are dedicated to being a change agent. . . Even if its a 'thank you' or if its writing a letter or if its making a petition, whatever it may be — that's what we need to do."

As for BCF, the group hopes to continue initiating events like this and is considering holding the next one to give support to the homeless in Charles Village.

"This is something that we definitely would like to keep doing," Onuma said.

Reddit founder discusses starting popular website

REDDIT, FROM A1
the ones of us who are willing to do crazy sh*t," Ohanian said.

Ohanian, dubbed an Internet entrepreneur, is primarily known for launching the social news website reddit.com with co-founder Steve Huffman. Ohanian has since gone on to create the social enterprise Breadpig and the upstart online travel company Hipmunk. He has also invested in a number of other Internet startups.

Ohanian began his talk by introducing himself and his companies.

"I'm the guy who starts companies with cute mascots," Ohanian joked.

He went onto discuss the rapid progression of the Internet as a platform for knowledge, ideas and connections and how the information superhighway has excited him from a young age.

"As soon as I found out about GeoCities, I built my first website," Ohanian said, about building websites at the age of 15.

He said that Hopkins students today have an advantage having grown up with the Internet. Ohanian, who described using the Internet as almost like being able to speak a different language, discussed how the college-aged generation is more fluent in the Internet than any other generation — even the generation that built the Internet.

Ohanian also discussed his time at the University of Virginia and the early stages of the development of Reddit.

"We are in a perpetual state of figuring things out, we are always to some extent hacking because we find ourselves in new

situations no matter what. So whatever it is you want to work on, do not let not knowing what you're doing stop you because that is how we all start out," he said.

Ohanian discussed the many hardships and difficulties that he and Hoffman experienced as they launched Reddit, including the constructive (and unconstructive) criticism that they received. He advised students to start pursuing their big ideas as soon as they can.

"One of the best things you could do right is getting used to doing stuff and getting used to some of those setbacks. Launching your first Etsy store if you love knitting and trying to sell some stuff you've made, or doing a Kickstarter campaign if you're excited about whatever it is you're excited about making, or building that Android App you've always wanted," Ohanian said.

At the end of his speech, Ohanian did an interview in the style of his video series *Small Empires* with Hopkins alumnus Ralph Gootee. A graduate of the Applied Physics Laboratory, Gootee has gone on to work for companies such as Sony Ericsson and Pixar. He is currently developing an app called PlanGrid.

Gootee discussed his trajectory towards PlanGrid, which digitizes construction blueprints. He also gave advice to students about pursuing their own unique ideas as well as the benefits of working for a startup.

"People, in general, have interests, and you have interests as well. Seek out other people with interests, work with them, build things," Gootee said.



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NEWS & FEATURES

Lighting of the Quads inspires holiday spirit



COURTESY OF WILL KURK
Gilman Hall lights up in the ninth annual Lighting of the Quads ceremony.

LIGHTING, FROM A1
RAB hosted its annual, long-awaited Gingerbread House Competition starting at 8:15 p.m. This year's winner of the annual competition was "The Castle," while "Gilman Hall" won the titles of "Fan Favorite" and "Most Spirited."

Students were offered the opportunity to make their own LED Snowflake Pins at the Breezeway at 8:45 p.m. before the start of the festivities at 9 p.m. The class councils also gave out free gifts on the quad during the event.

Complementing the festive atmosphere, the University's only all-female *a cappella* group, the JHU Sirens, wearing Santa Claus hats, launched the festivities. Despite a not-so-powerful sound system, the crowd seemed to appreciate the performance. They were followed by the Pep Band, Ketzev and the All-Nighters with each group performing a holiday season-themed song.

A little after 9 p.m., Daniels flipped the switch, suddenly illuminating the lights wrapped around the columns at the entrance of Gilman Hall, in addition to festive lights on the quads across campus. The lighting was, for the second time in the University's history, followed by an explosive fireworks show. Fireworks were introduced to the ceremony just last year.

Two years ago, the student body was particularly disappointed by the lack of lights at Lightings of the Quads. Before, the ceremony consisted only of illuminating the lamp-posts on the Homewood Campus.

"This year's Lighting of the Quad was definitely better than two years ago, but not as good as last year's. Last year, the firework show was

more extravagant; it had a wow factor and ended in a bang," junior Leah Barresi said.

The disappointment following the 2011 lighting led to particularly low expectations for last year's lighting. The Hopkins community was, however, for the most part thrilled by last year's firework show, a significant upgrade from the year before. When this year's lighting was around the corner, students' expectations were even higher.

"When I was a sophomore last year, all I heard the day after Lighting of the Quads was how much of an improvement it was from my freshman year. Knowing this, there was a good amount of hype this time around, but after again, not being able to hear the *a cappella* groups and witnessing maybe a 20 second firework (read: sparkler) display, I have to say that it was anticlimatic," junior Liz Rha wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Nevertheless, the Lighting of the Quads arrived just in time: following Thanksgiving break, and right before finals, the event was a welcome study break for students. As soon as it was over, though, the crowd rushed back to the library.

"I found the lengthy line back into Brody through the café more entertaining than the Lighting of the Quads itself," Rha said.

Junior Raquel Cruz-Stratton noticed the same phenomenon.

"It was awesome to see everyone gathered in front of Gilman and to see their reactions to the fireworks- which were awesome. And then of course, the exodus from the quad into Brody was just so typical Hopkins," Cruz-Stratton said.

GRADUATE, FROM A1

It promises new graduate students five years at this level of compensation with full tuition and health care covered, along with a professional development supplement of \$1,000. Two of the students' five years will be free of any teaching obligations in the humanities and social sciences, and there will be opportunities for graduate students to compete for a sixth year of support from the University.

But in order to afford the increase in stipends, the number of graduate students would have to be reduced by about a quarter. The reduction would be carried out over a five-year time frame.

"To afford that expense, which students in the doctoral programs have been asking for ever since my arrival, we have to confront some hard decisions about the size of the cohort we can afford," Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Katherine Newman wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

In the graduate student body's response to the plan, students expressed concerns about how it will affect their departments. With smaller cohorts, they think that the intellectual discussions and overall learning environment could be negatively affected.

"A strength of Hopkins is the graduate student community, which includes interactions with faculty members and grad students. But now with only three people, let's say, as opposed to six, in your cohort, the opportunities for discussing with your fellow grad students are really curtailed," sociology graduate student Smriti Upadhyay said.

They're also concerned that reducing the number of graduate students will increase the amount of time they spend teaching, leaving them with less time to focus on research.

"We teach one or two sections a semester and then we try to do our research in the mean time. If we had to teach a whole other section, it's a lot to ask. I think most people would agree an additional \$5000 wouldn't really compensate us because... while we do need more compensation, the increase in work that that would require wouldn't really allow us to get our research done," English graduate student Erica Tempesta said.

The Nov. 11 draft of the Strategic Plan considered this potential problem and referenced solutions that some departments are already implementing. The plan cited "professional TAs," — people with master's degrees that are hired to teach but are not looking to obtain a doctorate them-

selves. It also mentioned universities that employ advanced undergraduates as TAs and referenced the Mathematics Department at Hopkins as an example of this.

The graduate student response claimed that there are not enough qualified undergraduates to make up for the decrease in graduate students. They also expressed concern at the imbalance that stipend differences would create.

"It would create a fairly dramatic inequity for the next few years between incoming students and existing students. You would just have students who are being paid a great deal more than others. Some people would probably say that that would be very upsetting to them. Thinking about my peers, I don't want to see them being paid less for the same amount of work as other people. I think that's kind of awful," Tempesta said.

The graduate students also disagree with the assumption that increasing salaries will improve the program as many note that they were drawn to the University not for the stipends, but for the faculty and the departmental culture.

"I didn't come here for the money, and none of us came here for the money, so the amount to which that is going to impact our own work is sort of small," Tempesta said.

The Strategic Plan also puts forth a proposition called "leaning junior." It outlines the University's intent to hire more junior scholars to replace senior professors when they retire. The financial savings from this plan could be put toward departments with high enrollments. In essence, the plan acknowledges that the University must hire tenured professors, but it argues the University should hire fewer. The graduate students' response contends that this will negatively impact the intellectual community, especially since many of them chose Hopkins for the faculty it has to offer.

The plan also calls for the proportion of courses that faculty teach to undergraduates as compared to graduates to change from 2:2 to 3:1.

Many graduate students believe this will limit their accessibility to the faculty and weaken their relationships. They also believe that this decrease will lead to fewer courses being offered but will increase the time needed to obtain a degree.

Many graduate students also think that the broad nature of the plan will take away from different departments' ability to remain autonomous in their decision-making process.

Department chairs, who

have been actively consulted throughout the process, have had varying responses to the plan. Co-Chair of the Writing Seminars Department Jean McGarry likes that students will have semesters where they won't have to teach, as Writing Seminars graduate students have had to teach every semester.

"One of the best features of the new policy for the Writing Seminars would be the 'gift' of a semester free of teaching for our incoming poets and fiction-writers, a semester freed up so that they can concentrate on their courses, their writing, and also have the time to prepare for teaching IFP," McGarry wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Some chairs have some concerns with aspects of the plan that they hope to see resolved.

"By reducing graduate enrollments, we run the risk of compromising the integrity of many of our graduate programs and that's a serious concern. We're hoping by working together with the Dean, we can find a funding path that would be less hurtful and would allow us to maintain our graduate levels and also support our graduate students at the level that we would all like to see them supported," Chair of the Sociology Department Karl Alexander said.

The plan has been in the works for some time now, according to Newman.

"This discussion has been ongoing for 18 months within the Advisory Committee on Budget and Strategic Planning and is now engaging the rest of the faculty," Newman wrote.

Over the course of 2010-2012, 30 two-day programs called "the futures seminars" took place to examine the possibilities for investments in new fields as well as potential changes in methods of research training necessary to keep the University's departments competitive. Following these meetings, the 22 departments and 10 programs drafted white papers on how these changes would affect their particular department. The white papers outlined the future of faculty hiring as well as graduate and undergraduate program changes.

Teams of external reviewers consisting of senior academics from more than 80 universities were brought to campus for two days each. They used the white papers as a basis to interview every faculty member in the department under review, select groups of undergraduate and graduate students as well as members of the Dean's office. Following this, they submitted reports to Hopkins. Using these reports,

the departments considered the suggestions, added their own and responded to the external review.

Last year, the Advisory Committee on Budget and Strategic Planning was created, comprised of faculty from the School of Arts & Science, many of them department chairs.

"This committee was charged with producing the strategic plan as a way of achieving the vision indicated by the sum total of all the futures seminars, the white papers, and the external reviews that the departments underwent in the previous years," Egginton said.

After the plan was created, it was posted on a password protected website to allow the faculty to read it and respond. In the fall, an open faculty meeting was held where the plan was presented to the faculty again. Following this, a series of town hall meetings took place at which point faculty were encouraged to attend and ask questions about the plan. Lastly, the plan was presented to the graduate students.

On Nov. 18, the Graduate Representative Organization (GRO) held a meeting in which Egginton fielded questions about the plan. A general graduate meeting occurred afterwards. After some deliberation at this meeting, the graduate students decided to ask for a moratorium. The plan was officially distributed by the GRO with the permission of the Dean's office on Nov. 19, though many graduate students claim to have had access to it previously.

On Nov. 25, the graduate students held a town hall meeting to further discuss their concerns. Many graduate students want to stop the current plan from proceeding, arguing that they were brought into the decision-making process too late.

"I think that it should be an opportunity for us to re-think some of the ways that decision-making is happening. There's the plan and that's huge, and that's the focus. But along with the plan are all of these other issues about transparency and how grad students are involved in decisions that are going to affect them in a huge way," Upadhyay said.

With the amount of discussion occurring, Egginton is hopeful that a solution will be reached that satisfies both the graduate student body as well as the department chairs.

"The basic message is that this is a strategic plan that is still being discussed. It hasn't achieved any final form yet and we're actively soliciting the opinions of our colleagues and the chairs of the various departments as to what would be most effective and the best way forward," Egginton said.

Step Up spreads philanthropic awareness, promotes 'Giving Tuesday'

By Ellie Penati
Staff Writer

In honor of "Giving Tuesday," members of Step Up stationed themselves on the Keyser Quad during the Lighting of the Quads ceremony this past Tuesday in an attempt to raise awareness about the importance of philanthropy on Homewood Campus.

The group set up a table where members encouraged students passing by to sign letters and posters to show appreciation to those that have donated to the University. Participants were treated to free pens and highlighters.

"Tonight we wanted take the opportunity of the Lighting of the Quads to jumpstart Step Up early and to get people thinking about philanthropy and thanking our donors, especially in honor of Giving

Tuesday," the President of Step Up, Carolina Hernandez, said.

Celebrating "Giving Tuesday" is a growing movement in the world of nonprofits that seeks to compliment the extreme consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday and promote the spirit of philanthropy.

"We are out here tonight as a student body to say thank you to all those people who gave back on 'Giving Tuesday' and throughout the rest of the year just for their support of what's going on here at the University," Jeanine Federline, assistant dean of early engagement in the Office of Alumni Relations and faculty advisor of Step Up, said.

Step Up is an organization at Hopkins that, with support from the Office of Alumni Relations, works to raise awareness about

the effects of philanthropy on campus and inspire students to partake in philanthropy themselves. The group primarily works to plan the annual Step Up Week, a week filled with philanthropy awareness activities. This year Step Up Week will fall on the week of April 6.

"We strive to let students know that there is a tradition of philanthropy on campus. The University was founded on a seven-million dollar gift, which was the largest philanthropic donation of its kind at that time when Johns Hopkins was founded. So there has always been this

legacy of giving back and we try and celebrate that. We aim to say thank you to all of our alumni, friends and supporters who donate their time, talent, and treasure back to campus," Federline said.

I am proud that I'm at a school where philanthropy is so strong.

— ALEX SURGET, SOPHOMORE

Step Up hopes to encourage students to consider the effort and time of those who make possible the various events and elements of student life at Hopkins.

"I think Step Up is important because sometime you forget all the behind-the-scenes stuff that lets us do what we want to and Step Up inspires people to realize how events like Spring Fair and October-

fest and funded in part by donors," junior Allie Baker, a member of Step Up, said. "We encourage the students to give back when they graduate but we also would like to educate the students about what the donations to the school do and what they go towards."

Besides monetary donations, Step Up urges students to consider and appreciate other forms of philanthropy.

"We do recognize philanthropy as obviously the money donations that come in but also [as] the time that people and students give and what they do in their community service and clubs," Hernandez said.

Several students reaffirmed this sentiment, emphasizing the presence of philanthropy on campus.

"I definitely think that the philanthropy at Hopkins is

visible whether it is events like Spring Fair, renovations to buildings or scholarships. I am proud that I'm at a school where philanthropy is so strong," sophomore Alex Surget said.

Junior Nathalia Gibbs agreed.

"It's great... how there are lots of individuals and organizations on campus that give back to the community," Gibbs said.

Beyond educating students about philanthropy overall, Step Up hopes that students will give back to Hopkins and the greater community during their time on campus or as alumni.

"There are a lot of ways to give back not just to Hopkins but to the community as well and we encourage students to choose one of these endless options," senior Step Up member Michael Ketcha said.

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Johns Hopkins Community -

On behalf of the Johns Hopkins Department of Athletics, I would like to thank every member of the University community for the tremendous support of our teams this fall.

Our teams enjoyed one of the great seasons in school history and a big part of that success was the fan support our student-athletes received from our students, faculty and staff.

I look forward to seeing you at even more games this year as the spirit you showed in the fall will help carry our winter and spring athletes to even great successes.

Thank you again and Go Blue Jays!

Tom Calder

Director of Athletics & Recreation



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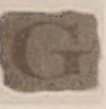
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In honor of Black Friday, Rebecca Black watches Rebecca Black's "Friday" [gaw.kr/luw35MT](#)

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How else would you want to spend your Black Friday than watching Rebecca Black cringe at her own music video for her hit "Friday"? She's pretty sassy and she's wearing flannel. Partyin', partyin', YEAH.




A\$AP Feminist @FeministaJones

#RacismEndedWhen Bill Clinton played the saxophone on Arsenio Hall's show

Expand

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On the anniversary of Rosa Park's heroic refusal to give up her bus seat, the Grand-Old-Party decided to tweet that, thanks to Park, racism officially ended. Twitter user @FeministaJones started #RacismEndedWhen, and it quickly became a widespread Twitter movement to show that no, racism is unfortunately not over in America.



elan gale @theyearofelan


28 Nov

Our flight is delayed. A woman on here is very upset because she has Thanksgiving plans. She is the only one obviously. Praying for her

Expand

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If you were on Twitter on Thanksgiving, Elan Gale was hilariously tweeting his encounter with an extremely rude woman on a flight (though he was being pretty rude to her as well). He's a producer on *The Bachelor*, though, so some people think he made up the entire encounter as a sort of a social media experiment. Whether it's true or not, go to @theyearofelan for an entertaining read.



HuffPost Celebrity @HuffPostCeleb

31m

Paul Walker was doing what he loved hours before his death: helping others [huff.to/1cg5o8u](#) #RIPPaulWalker

View summary

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Twitter has become a community of grief for whenever a celebrity unfortunately dies. RIP, Paul Walker.

Being thankful for much more than just food

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays, mainly because it is the one holiday during which I know that my family will be cooking a feast and we will all sit around and gossip about any and everything. Every year, it reminds me that I should be thankful everyday for the people I have in my life, especially for my truly amazing parents.

My mother is one of the most complex individuals I know — which means she is a complete *loca*. She sacrificed her youth, flawless skin and tight limbs to birth me and my siblings, and for that and so much more I love her unconditionally. But with every mother comes the annoying habits and flat out outlandish demands: don't let me forget to text her back, or not acknowledge a new pair of jeans or forget to send her a picture of what I'm wearing, nor can I state my opinion without being immediately asked whether or not I'm okay, which is code for, "Do you have an attitude?" It's an argument that just isn't worth the hassle.

This past weekend, though, she was too funny. My sister and I were talking at the kitchen table about what we were getting her for Christmas when I mentioned that she asked for a Michael Kors bag. My sister proceeded to tell me that she asked for gold hoop ear-

rings. So once my mother re-entered the kitchen we asked her for the truth and were met with the lovely but completely false reply of, "Oh! I just want my children to be happy with their presents; that's what I want for Christmas." Seeing straight through her we persisted, and she relented that "some sterling silver hoop earrings would be nice." After one last push came the Michael Kors bag reply. Let's just say my sister, father and I have some discounts to look up.

When she wasn't lying about what she wanted for Christmas, she was the

loving mother that she always is, rubbing my back with Bengay when I tried to lift something heavy, taking the car to the casino, leaving my dad and I stuck at home unable to go to IHOP, trying to win money for us. Constantly telling me how much I have grown and that she loves it when I wear lipstick. Dramatically hugging me before I left and confessing that she loves when all her kids are home. Although it is a bit much at times, her brand of drama has become a part of my life.

My mother's brand is completely different from

my father's, however. Dealing with my father is like dealing with my little brother: They don't share their thoughts when you ask. You have to wait until they come to you and open up about whatever is on their mind.

It was during one of these times that we joked about who gets the shorter end of the stick. We were in the car talking about how this week is the last week of classes and finals are coming up very soon, but even though I am going to be stuck studying, I still have it better than my dad because at least I won't be at home dealing with mom. In the end, this Thanksgiving break taught me that going home and chilling with my parents truly keeps me young.

Amanda Garcia
Fam Bam



Nothing says "Thanksgiving" like bonding with your parents — even if they're really reserved or just plain *loca*.

@rachel_witkin
Tweets of the Week

This weekly column features some of the top posts around the Twitter realm that deal with the week's top stories in sports, politics, pop culture and all things news.

A how-to for getting through finals alive

Coffee in one hand, computer in the other — even though it's like 30 degrees outside, you will yourself to make that dreadful trek to the library. I'd love to say that this is something that only happens during finals season, but let's be real — it's pretty much an everyday scenario for most of us.

There's a reason why people joke that Hopkins kids live in the library; take it from someone who's seen people brush their teeth in the bathrooms: This is no myth. Though some of us may be questioning our decision to come here (curse our younger and naïve, over-achieving selves!), not all hope is lost with Hopkins. Yes, this is a cutthroat school where the curve is as important as the subject of a course, but there are definitely ways to navigate Hopkins while still maintaining our sanity. Thus, I've compiled a list of things to do that would be especially useful to keep us all going during these last couple grueling weeks of school.

1. Remove yourself from those intense, overachievers.

We all have that friend: the one that's always two weeks ahead of the homework, scores almost perfect scores in exams and seems to have this college thing figured out pretty well. If you're that person, just skip to the next item on the list. But if you're not, take comfort in knowing that most of us are winging it, too. Just take a deep breath, and remember that we all work at different paces. Stop wasting time worrying what the other person has done, and start focusing on getting through your own pile of work.

2. Hang with your friends.

Remember those people that you used to talk to back when you still thought that midterms only happened once in the middle of the semester? Instead of taking yet another to-go box from the FFC, why not spend that time catching up with a friend? Chances are they're probably still as cool and fun to spend time with, and just as stressed as you are with the infinite amount of work. It's a struggle at first, but getting out of hibernation mode is worth it. Hey, you might even be motivated to get some actual studying done when you return to the library.

3. Treat yourself to good food.

It's no coincidence that desserts is "stressed" spelled backwards. We've all been there. Stress-eating becomes all too common once we're up studying for yet another midterm. However, instead of snacking on spicy Cheetos (or whatever the CharMar equivalent is), why not have some actual, good food? Baltimore is never lacking when it comes to inexpensive but delicious food. Use your next study break over the weekend to grab the JHMI to Iggy's in Mount Vernon for amazing pizza, or satisfy your sweet tooth cravings with some sweet potato ice cream from Dominion. Never underestimate the power of good food.

4. Get away from Hopkins.

Sitting in the same cubicle for seven hours straight is enough to make anyone go crazy. Somehow there will always be work to do, so leaving your spot for a couple of hours is not going to make much of a difference. Whether it's taking a short walk to the stream behind San Martin Drive, or taking the Blue Jay shuttle to the karaoke place a couple of streets away, the change of scenery will make a world of a difference.

5. Remind yourself why you're here.

Though Hopkins now may seem to you like the source of never-ending work, try to go back to a time when you were actually excited to come to this school. Take a trip down memory lane and go through the application essay that got you into this school, or look at pictures from freshman orientation, when everything looked so exciting and everyone was still awkward. College seemed like an endless sea of possibilities then and — tough as it may be to believe — it still is. These four years are what you make out of it, so take heart from your younger ambitious self, and get back to the grind again.

That's it for my list. Some things may seem pretty intuitive, but you'd be surprised by how many students choose to replace their common sense with the one-track mind for getting that elusive "A." So instead of spending your study breaks on BuzzFeed or online shopping, switch it up a little and actually go out and do things. And if all else fails, at least you know that winter break is a sweet three weeks away.

Until then, good luck studying! May the curve ever be in your favor.

Elsheba Abraham
Beyond the Hop

HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

Jesus walks at Yeezus' hell of a show in DC

A slim silhouette appeared atop Kanye West's beehive on stage re-creation of the temple mount, as the instrumental to West's iconic "Jesus Walks" began to hum in the background. Everyone in the audience knew what was coming next. The figure gingerly descending the mount turns out to be West's version of Jesus, a reimagining similar to what anyone would think Jesus would look like: tall, thin, long dark willowy hair and an untrimmed beard. Yup, Kanye nailed it.

As the crowd tried to figure what to make of it all,

the often outrageous, always brilliant West's latest biblical stunt, "Jesus," made his way down to where Kanye was kneeling, cradled over to the point where he nearly folded into himself. Jesus stood before Kanye and in that moment the spotlight dropped, the lights faded and the audience finally saw something that they had not seen up until this point: Kanye's face.

Michael Louis Rosin
Music, Movies
and More

West had been alternating between wearing a ruby-studded mask and another similar mask encrusted with diamonds and gold just to ensure that the level of bravado was up to snuff. This definitely added to the aura

of mystique in the building and helped build energetic vibes during the show, the anticipation, the build up and finally Kanye kneeling before Jesus himself to take the mask off.

Yes, Kanye is irreverent; that fact has been well established by now. But call it what you will, brilliant or blasphemous, there is no doubt that Kanye West is an incredible performer. I witnessed it, and there are millions across the nation that can testify to this. As Kanye completes the remainder of his Yeezus tour, little will be left to question. Yes, Kanye is a megalomaniac. Yes, many of his ideas are farfetched, and no, I would not buy a pair of his leather jogging pants, but as far as performance and music goes, there are few who can match him.

With his string of electrifying performances on his tour, Kanye is reminding people why they loved him so much in the first place. I had the privilege of seeing him up close in Washington, DC at the Verizon Center, and I can confidently say that I left the show feeling like I got my money's worth.

Kendrick Lamar, recently voted Q's Rapper of the Year, opened for Kanye. Yeah, that should give you an idea of how big of deal this guy is. Kendrick was on for about 45 minutes, and he did a great job, performing some of his hits like "Money Trees" while sprinkling in some of his lesser-known rhymes. However, this was undoubtedly Kanye's night.

After Kendrick left the stage Kanye's mountain was resurrected on the back end of the stage and Kanye's dancers came out to the instrumental of "On Sight." The crowd gasped in amazement as West appeared in between his

dancers, donning a mask as he began rapping the album intro. The energy coursing through the arena when West came on was palpable, and it only intensified as the concert continued.

West performed a few select hits but primarily chose to showcase his latest project Yeezus throughout the night. The sets, lights, fireworks and confetti all enhanced West's performance significantly; the man is a master at building up hype and knows exactly when and how to drop each song. The concert had everything: great music, attractive dancers, the Kanye (a shadowy red eyed "yeti"-like figure that appears on much of the album's artwork) and even a good ol' fashioned Kanye rant. Kanye explored the audience to hear him out for 30 seconds and used that as an opportunity to express his frustrations with being a black, straight, male celebrity trying to break into the world of fashion.

This tirade lasted around 10 minutes with Kanye drawing comparisons of himself to Walt Disney, Steve Jobs and pretty much every other figure of note throughout history. This got a little bit much for some (if the Jesus stunt wasn't already), but you have to hand it to him, Kanye knows how to entertain.

The show was an extravaganza of lights, colors, yetis and, most importantly, great music. As he mentioned several times throughout the show, Kanye does not care what the record labels or the media think, he only cares about us, the fans. Kanye proved this sentiment true through his performance.

Despite pulling radical stunts, drawing absurd comparisons and making reckless assertions, the man puts on one hell of a show.

#BBJHU: Black Hopkins speaks out

Shortly before the Thanksgiving break, the Hopkins Black Student Union tweeted the hashtag #BBJHU encouraging followers to include it in their tweets about what it was like to be black at Hopkins. And thus began a flood of tweets about the awkward, inspirational, hilarious and straight-up depressing tweets from Black Hopkins, a group of black students and alumni who are known for speaking out about the positives and negatives (mostly negatives) of the black Hopkins student's experience.

Here are some of the most telling tweets from #BBJHU. Brace yourselves; it's about to get racial:

1. "Having to watch my words in class as the only black person b/c I'm automatically the spokesperson for the entire race #BBJHU" —@xbrookeloggann

Being the only black student in certain classes comes with way too much responsibility: proving that black people are capable of eloquence, explaining white privilege, defining words like "ashy" — the list goes on. For those students who don't have that essential black friend, you suddenly become their mental representation of blackness — and you best not let your people down.

2. "Being asked if you know how [to] TWERK! #BBJHU #ifonemorepersonasksimmakilleem" —@shirleyyyyyyy

The answer? Yes. Will I

teach you? No. One Miley is enough for this world.

3. "When the DJ shouts out every school except Hopkins. . . at a party in the Glass Pav. . . #BBJHU" —@_KChelsi (well, that Twitter handle looks familiar)

One can only go to so many frat parties that blast hip-hop hits from three years ago, so the BSU occasionally hosts parties in the Glass Pav, inviting local DJs and partner organizations from nearby universities. Unfortunately, even other black people assume that there are no students of color at Hopkins, so our presence isn't even recognized at our own parties. Disrespectful.

4. "#BBJHU Minor: Code Switching" —@TellyMonster

For those of us who have no problems listening to Chief Keef while studying Orgo, it can be a bit hard to "code switch" or turn off the usage of slang around people who would require way too much time and a diagram or two to understand it. Thanks to cultural appropriation, though, at least we can say "ratchet" without being judged.

5. "I went to a Greek Meet & Greet, I didn't see any of the Divine Nine included #BBJHU" —@JHUBSU

Quick: name the organizations of the Divine Nine. Oh, you don't know what the Divine Nine is? I'm not surprised. It's a term that refers to the first nine black Greek letter organizations, four of which are present on campus. With Hopkins only officially recognizing two of these organizations, however, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who even knows that such fraternities and sororities exist. So, yes, those black people walking around campus wearing certain colors, throwing up hand signs and making those weird calls are Greeks. Hopefully.

6. "That mural in Nolan's though. #BBJHU" —@_KChelsi

Do a Google Image search of "minstrel show" and then look at the jazz players in the mural behind the stage in Nolan's. See any similarities? The emotionless, identical men with dark skin and huge red lips are all too reminiscent of imagery that was used to degrade black people decades ago. Even more, their positioning in the mural — playing music for the students — shows that life truly imitates art: Sometimes it seems as if there are more black people at Hopkins working as "the help" than there are black students.

7. "Does your hair just grow like that? Can I touch it?" #BBJHU" —@TERRiesandCream

Okay, I get it. Black hair is interesting. I've had it for 20 years, and it still surprises me sometimes. But at the end of the day, it's just hair. Please appreciate from afar.

8. "Black Hopkins got [me] through my toughest times and helped me go from ac pro to deans list #BBJHU" —@javellebee

For black students who have a rough time adjusting to the culture shock of Hopkins' demographics, being surrounded by supportive and relatable people provides an indescribable relief. Until Hopkins does a better job of recognizing and catering to the needs of its minority students, Black Hopkins may be the one thing that keeps some students sane.

Getting hooked on hooking up

In my mind I told him he could have all my favorite songs and entangled thoughts. He could tell me about the most boring days or play with my hair if he wanted. I said I wanted his voice, his dreams, his stubbornness, his morning kisses (and midnight ones, too), his stories, his worries, his passion, his tenderness, heck, his anything at all.

But as the great philosopher Mick Jagger once said, you can't always get what you want — and I didn't think that an after-dawn-only affair was what I needed. Not when I actually liked him. In the game of "I love you. . . me neither," I had found myself on the wrong side of the barricades.

I am usually first to defend the casual libertinism and debauchery that happens among the young and free these days but not this time. "This is why we cannot have nice things fellow students," went through my mind, "It's because everyone is after instant gratification." My ego was bruised: How dare he not be interested in my mind and soul but go after my body? I don't even work out! (Is it because I don't work out?) He just doesn't care if it's me or Linda or Nathan. . . I thought I was quite magnificent, but it turns out I am just another brick in the wall of his booty call numbers. Then time passed, as it always does, and after my feelings faded (not to say, "as they always do"), I think I understood him and the hookup culture.

Maybe I am magnificent. Maybe I am not. Maybe I am beautiful, smart, funny, interesting and maybe not. It doesn't matter. Feelings don't need conscious reasons to exist or not to exist. He will meet a girl someday (a giggly ginger philosophy major, an alcoholic or a model?) and fall madly in love. He will want her everywhere, and everything will be different with her. All the awkwardness of mornings with others, all the boredom and the longing for freedom will fade away. Truth is, we are all looking for a "you changed it all" story. You saved me. You made me understand. You are my present and future and morning kisses (and midnight ones, too). You are the one I want to run away with. You started the revolution, colored my life, bewitched me, seduced me. You.

They passed me by, they couldn't sing, but you are like a siren in the ocean. They were fine, and we had a good time, but your eyelashes are so long, they deem the past unimportant. Our hookup culture is not a cynical bitterness of a been-there-done-that kind of person. It is the maximalist's refusal to settle. We realize falling in love is not guaranteed, and in the future some of us will end up with people who are "good enough:" nice enough, comfortable enough, just enough. But for now, we are not

weary of the wait. All of this is merely biology; the magic is hiding around the corner. We have the world to meet and a heart to break. We refuse to accept anything but lust and romance and everything there is to desire with someone. Who wants just a person? Who doesn't want danger? Excitement? An anchor? A writer? An accident? A scar or a fear or waterfall? A drug, a kiss, a blackout? Or a fever, crush, collapse, a dance turn, a fight, a smirk, a way, a style, a hundred things together and apart? And after all this, who wants just a person? Who?

We are confident and egotistical enough not to seek out someone who fits the profile armed with a list of core requirements and deal breakers. Unless we get accidentally hit in the gut by love, we are fine with being alone with our ambitions, ideas, friends, victories and failures. For now we don't need the comfort of a return or the strength in holding hands. Not to say that we are heartless. We do want it all, but at the same time have the courage to acknowledge that having it all is a rare thing we are willing to wait for.

In the slightly altered wise words of Michael Bubl , "we'll give so much more than we get. . . we just haven't met them yet." Before complaining about dating in college, we need to realize, as painful as it is, that maybe we are each just a person for someone special to us. Maybe it is a good thing, too. If we are willing to give a lot more than just physical, we deserve someone who, according to Frida Kahlo looks at us "like maybe we are magic." Someone who likes us as a whole, someone who wants us in his or her arms and mind and reckless plans. Someone who listens and remembers. Someone worthy of our worlds.

Katie Barat
What Katie Did

Five ways to fall in love with Lisbon

On All Saint's Day in 1755, a huge earthquake struck Lisbon, destroying nearly every church in the city. The earthquake, which wiped out an estimated one-quarter of the population, not only destroyed a large part of the city but also greatly damaged the future of the colonial empire.

In Lisbon today, it's practically as if the aftershocks were not felt. Even into more recent times, the Portuguese economy has been struggling. In the midst of the beautiful late September sunshine, there was something a little "off" about my trip to the Portuguese capital.

Lisbon does not feel like a modern city. The buildings are beautiful but in massive disrepair, cracking and crumbling from the ceilings. Besides the part of the grid area of the city re-built after the earthquake, the city is a maze of winding streets, disappearing street signs and streets that somehow change name without notice. Then, there's the public transportation, which is somewhat of a disaster. I ended up waiting for trams. A lot. For hours at a time. And then getting lost on those disappearing streets.

But even with all the getting lost, Lisbon stole my heart just the slightest bit. Here's how you can fall in love with Lisbon, too:

1. Ride the bright yellow trams.

I have a love/hate relationship with the Lisbon trams. My first impression of the trams: what is a *Streetcar Named Desire* doing in the middle of Lisbon? My second reaction: these are the most inefficient forms of transformation I've ever seen. We ended up waiting for the #28 tram to come for three hours, then once we finally got on the tram, we ended up getting stuck at a stop when the tracks were blocked by another car. It was not the most pleasant experience. Still, Tram #28 takes you around the hilly city, past all the major landmarks. So if it ever comes, it's worth the ride.

2. Get lost in Alfama. This is not a difficult task. The winding streets of Alfama, the former Arab district, are beautiful — huge tiled ceilings, gorgeous buildings — but quite confusing. Navigate your way to the top of the neighborhood, and when you're completely out of breath, you've probably reached S o Jorge Castle. The Moorish castle at the peak of the city offers great views of the water and sprawling red tiled roofs.

3. Do a picnic lunch at the Cais de Colunas. This point in the city is a makeshift beach, a great place to lie in the sun and take a nap. Portugal is also a really cheap place to visit. If you feel like doing a picnic it's even cheaper. Grab some snacks from the closest supermarket and you can probably feast for under five euros.

4. Take a trip to see the Belem Tower.

The town of Belem is not far from Portugal, accessible by bus (and tram, but we all know that story). The Belem Tower is an icon of Lisbon. The fortified tower is at the end of a long walk down the Tagus River, from which it emerges like something out of a fairytale. On your way back, be sure to stop at Past is de de Bel m. This was quite possibly my favorite part of my trip to Lisbon. Their *past is de nata* are world famous — straight out of the oven, with powdered sugar and cinnamon, it's hard to describe them other than delicious.

5. Go out in Barrio Alto. In Lisbon, there are no open drink laws and everyone drinks in the streets. On our first night, we made the rookie mistake of having an early dinner and ended up missing the night out entirely. When we were walking back at midnight, the streets were empty — but at 2 o'clock the next night it was if the city came alive. At 2 a.m., practically the entire city was out in the streets, drinking small ca as and taking in the scene. It was a lot like one big tailgate for the football game that never came. The Barrio Alto lifestyle is definitely not something to miss.

Lisbon is not a place that I originally planned on visiting. In fact, I knew next to nothing about the city before deciding to go there, but the temptation of a city so close pulled me away from Madrid for yet another weekend.

Next time, I'll stick a little closer to home, to my home for the past semester, the Spanish capital of Madrid.

Katie Quinn
Postcards From Far
Away

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorial

HopSecret supplies counseling tool

In February of 2012, the Center for Health Education and Wellness (CHEW) launched a new website called HopSecret. A spinoff of the popular site PostSecret, the Hopkins version allows students to post anonymous secrets, regrets, confessions or other messages to a public audience. The site has remained popular and well-frequented since its inception, and new posts are added every week. Recently, the site was updated to allow moderated comments in response to the anonymous entries of other students. Particularly concerning entries are responded to by site administrator Alanna Biblow, a health educator at CHEW, who directs students towards the abundance of counseling services the University provides.

The Editorial Board is encouraged by the popularity and success of the website and feels it has great potential as an outlet for therapeutic self-expression. It's common for students at any university — whether they're seniors preparing to enter the real world or freshmen leaving home for the first time — to encounter stressors and problems that at times seem overwhelming. From relationship troubles to family troubles, academic difficulties to social difficulties, sleep deprivation to depression, college students have a lot on their minds. Intense scholastic rigor makes the Hopkins landscape particularly difficult to navigate. In the midst of all these responsibilities and concerns, students can sometimes feel trapped and stuck with secrets or embarrassing problems that they can't reveal to anybody in person. If kept bottled up, the weight of these secrets can become a burden that impedes student life in all areas: academic, social, familial, romantic, physical, etc. By providing students with a forum to get these secrets off their chests to

an empathetic audience of peers that may be experiencing many of the same problems, HopSecret supports struggling students without compromising their identities or subjecting them to criticism or judgment. When used for this function, HopSecret has great potential as a counseling tool. At other times, the more light-hearted entries are merely an entertaining source of humorous anecdotes that the Hopkins community can relate to.

However, the Board cautions the student body that the long-term success of Hop Secret will depend on the maturity and honesty of its users. Internet anonymity has its benefits, but like many liberties it can also be abused. Similar experiments, such as the well-meaning anonymous Facebook pages JHU Compliments or JHU Crush, have at times been overtaken by pranksters, gossips or simple liars looking for a reaction. Later, spinoff pages like JHU Backhanded Compliments made a mockery of an otherwise helpful idea. Similarly, we can envision HopSecret being infiltrated by parody accounts making outlandish, attention-seeking entries and turning the genuine struggles of others into a punch line in the process.

But with discipline and sincere concern, HopSecret can continue to help students communicate their innermost fears, struggles, shames, secrets and frustrations. Just remember that impersonal online commiseration cannot replace in-person professional help for genuine psychiatric illness. If you're feeling any of these emotions, be aware that the larger Hopkins community has a multitude of Health, Wellness and Crisis Intervention programs (all accessible from the Hopkins website) designed to see you through your tough times.

LGBT awareness should continue

This past Tuesday, two CIA officers visited the University to discuss the career opportunities in the security organization for members of the LGBT community. The presentation was hosted by the oSTEM club at Gilman Hall and drew approximately 30 students. University students founded an oSTEM chapter at Hopkins last year to encourage students within the LGBT community to explore career paths in various science and technology fields. The two guests, Roger and Kristen, discussed their personal experiences at the CIA as members of the LGBT community and how the cultural environment for LGBT members at the agency is continually evolving towards a much more welcoming state. The event builds on the previous presentation from this semester when former Hopkins alumni, who are also in the LGBT community, spoke to oSTEM about developments in the STEM fields specifically.

The Editorial Board applauds the efforts of the Hopkins oSTEM chapter to promote more diverse views on

campus by bringing in speakers like Roger and Kristen. It is crucial that we constantly strive to create a comfortable learning environment for all students, regardless of their sexual orientations. Collaborative efforts with external organizations that embrace this view, move us towards this goal. The Board further commends junior Dillon Ward and graduate student Allison Tse for their work in planning the event. At the same time, we encourage other campus groups to support and embrace the efforts of oSTEM. As a preeminent institution of higher education in the world, Hopkins should be ever cognizant of the open-minded political stances present at sister institutions towards such issues and the various initiatives in place to promote them.

Hopkins faculty and students are among the brightest minds in the nation who are at the forefront of their fields. This same innovative spirit must also be channeled to confront and advance campus social causes not only through awareness events but also through substantive action.

Oscar Martinez-Yang



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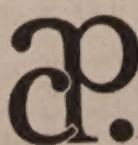
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The Gatehouse
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OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

Students must resist the corporatization of Hopkins

By SARALLAH SALEHI

As many students in the Hopkins community might be aware of by now, President Daniels and the University administration have been busily engaged in an extensive fundraising campaign called Rising to the Challenge. Begun in early 2010, the initiative aims to raise over \$4.5 billion to help fund numerous educational and scholarship programs across the several schools and campuses in the University system. By far the largest fundraising operation in our school's history, Rising to the Challenge recently passed the half way mark to its ultimate goal; with over 160,000 donors contributing thus far, it seems very likely that school officials will reach the \$4.5 billion figure by their stated date of Spring 2017.

Hopkins belongs in a very unique category amongst peer institutions because of its extremely intense focus on research at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. In fact, our school received just over \$1.8 billion in 2012 in the form of government grants from various federal organizations like Department of Defense and National Science Foundation. However, as a result of the recent cuts in national fiscal spending, the University has had to rely less and less on these federal dollars, to the tunes of tens of millions in lost grants — most notably, from the National Institute of Health. To offset these lost federal funds as well as to build on our endowment, the University has opted to turn towards an aggressive solicitation of private donor money.

But with this massive inflow of cash from private donors, there arise several key questions: Who are the individuals — or groups — contributing such large gifts, what do the donors expect in return, and to what extent is the University willing to fulfill those desires? In their Nov. 13 press release, the University disclosed that of the 160,000 or so donors, 28 had decided to contribute gifts exceeding \$10 million. Even

though this is an extremely large amount of money, nowhere on their campaign website nor in the numerous published articles are the identities of these generous individuals disclosed. This should be a very worrying fact.

As most will agree, a monetary gift of \$10 million is not mere pocket change. Furthermore, such a hefty donation carries more than a minuscule say in how it is ultimately spent. Although the campaign's stated goals include virtuous aims such as "identify[ing] innovative solutions to global health problems" and "bolster[ing] support for faculty and students," past events have shown that there are sometimes much more meddlesome intentions on the minds of donors. For example, in 1996, Yale alum and Texas billionaire Lee Bass made a \$20 million contribution to his alma mater with the slight contingency that the donation be used to create a new 'Western Civilization' curriculum, whose professors he would be responsible for selecting. Do Hopkins' munificent philanthropists seek similar input in return? The question has yet to be answered.

Concurrent with this unprecedented fundraising campaign has been the rumblings of cutbacks in the social sciences and humanities programs through the reduction of full-time tenure professors and PhD candidates, as well as administrative overreach in tenure decisions within the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. With a growing emphasis in higher education on academic disciplines that are able to produce intellectual products immediately usable by industry and corporations, the foundational subjects essential to a vibrant university atmosphere have been ever more scrutinized for possible budgetary trimming.

One of the most established traditions in the University has been the ability of the academic council — composed of faculty from the various departments — to decide who is offered tenure. But at Hopkins this historical custom has recently been under the greater discretion of the Pres-

ident and his administrative faculty at the expense of University professors who are much more attuned to the academic merit of potential tenure candidates. The dangers of allowing school officials who are in constant contact with external agents to possess heavy influence over which professors are permitted to continue their teaching and research are self-evident. What if the particular tenure candidate is engaged in contentious research whose findings pose significant problems for a rich donor? In an age where academic freedom in the university setting is under unprecedented attack from powerful corporate and private interests, the further erosion of this integral principle leaves very little room for critical debate to occur.

But by far the most ominous strategy that Hopkins is looking to implement is the reduction of full-time tenure professors and the increase in non-tenured associate professors. The current percentage of full-time tenure professors in each department is around 80 percent of faculty, but under the 'Deans Strategic Plan', the University will seek to lower this number to an abysmal 50 percent. Doing so would allow the increased hiring of non-tenured faculty who demand much less pay, in turn superficially increasing the ratio of professors to undergraduates. While this subterfuge might entice future students to attend the University, its effects on the overall teaching quality are utterly frightening. Furthermore, the kind of groundbreaking and controversial research from marquee professors that Hopkins is renown for will be inhibited; many of the new temporary professors will shy away from publishing material that could ultimately hurt their chances of landing the all-illusive tenure position.

Alongside the planned decrease in full-time tenure faculty is a similar scheme to reduce the number of accepted PhD students. Although the University seeks to increase the stipends paid to these smaller incoming cohorts by 30 percent to 30,000

dollars per year, this rise does not apply to the current graduate population. So as the already heavy workload of TAs increase each year while the overall graduate population decreases, those unfortunate PhDs who were present when the change went into effect will not see a commensurate rise in their compensation. While the University contends that such a policy would improve the competitiveness of the graduate programs by attracting more talented students, there is a conspicuous dearth of empirical evidence to support the claim.

The general thrust of the 'Dean's Strategic Plan' focuses on concentrating ever more decision-making power in the hands of the President and the Dean's office, while rescinding the traditional prerogatives of the academic departments. This centralization of power within the expansive bureaucratic web intends to wrestle control away from the professors and faculty who are most in touch with the research, teaching and learning occurring on campus. Instead, the key choices will be made in a top down fashion that provides little room for input from the individuals who will be most affected by those decisions: students and professors.

Luckily, there is a growing consensus among the targeted departments that such unilateral policies undermine the essence of higher education and must be thoroughly resisted. In support of this resistance, it is crucially imperative that the undergraduate student body at Hopkins — which is forsaken as apathetic by the University administration — also voice their opinion on these monumental policy changes taking place.

Though these coercive structural shifts will be more difficult to defeat than the hidden inter-session fee that the administration attempted to push through earlier this semester, collective action amongst the entire student body is our best hope of curtailing these adverse changes.

Sarallah is a sophomore double majoring in math and political science.

Consumers deserve the right to choose on trans fats

By CARISSA ZUKOWSKI

Every day of my life, I am granted the privilege of choice. I choose who I speak with, how to engage with my classes and where I go. Most importantly, I choose how I treat my body. This includes what I eat and how I exercise. I have the knowledge available to me to make informed and educated choices on these matters. But this past November, the FDA took it upon themselves to ban trans fats in American food products. If this ban succeeds, I will lose the ability to choose. Someone will have already chosen for me what I will not eat.

The FDA's ban of trans fats is an effort to reduce American obesity as well as to lower fatalities from heart disease and heart attacks. While this is an admirable cause, it is not the FDA's fight. Back in 1999, the FDA proposed that manufacturers be required to indicate a product's trans fats on the nutrition label. Clear and concise, the label helps weigh the pros and cons of processed foods in particular. But this is where the FDA should have stopped. The very purpose of making a food's nutrition information available to the public was so that consumers could make the most educated choice about their diet. It should not be about monitoring our frozen pizza intake.

The ban also threatens a Baltimore legend. The half-frosting, half-shortbread cookie native to Baltimore known as the Berger cookie is in jeopardy if the FDA does not make an exception for this particular small business. The Berger cookie was born when a family of German immigrants, the Bergers, opened their bakery's doors to East Baltimore in the late 1800s. Since then, the cookie has called Baltimore its home.

In a recent interview, the bakery announced that they will try to create a recipe without trans fats if the FDA fails to grant an exemption by Jan. 7. But, until then, they won't change a thing. The bakery is open about the fact that their cookies are not healthy. The fudge coated cookie is deadly delicious and the definition of glutinous, but one will certainly not kill you. Like most products containing trans fats, they have to be consumed in moderation. And this is where it is up to the consumer.

The consumer has to be responsible for their own health. Those who prove incapable of making the right choices have deeper rooted issues that no FDA policy will change. Education is the only way to create sustainable and prolonged change in society, which is why good living habits should be implemented by parents and by teachers. The government can implement whatever regulation they want, but it cannot protect us from everything. We have to take the initiative ourselves and be proactive in our health. America's rising obesity cannot be battled by government administration; it has to be fought by the people.

Instead of wasting resources to eliminate trans fats, the FDA should be creating programs to teach people why trans fats should be avoided. They should be educating the public about why they should take care of themselves and then giving them the means to make wiser choices.

Something should be done in order to create a healthier society, but this ban is not the answer. The FDA is not responsible for eliminating all threats to our health. Instead, it should create safety through education. Nothing in society will change until its members gain the will to change it themselves.

Carissa Zukowski is a freshman from Baltimore majoring in english and art history. She is an Opinions staff writer for The News-Letter.

SGA semester review: Student input yields results

By KYRA TOOMRE

The Hopkins Student Government Association (SGA) is committed to improving each student's experience at Hopkins. This semester our Committees, Class Councils and Executive Board have created many new initiatives and events in an effort to increase transparency and continue to improve student life. We have been hard at work meeting with administrators, completing projects and executing events to make your lives at Hopkins students more enjoyable. Here is a recap of what we've been up to:

The Student Services Committee has been working on three major projects. First, the committee has been working with the Vice Provost's office to centralize communication and create a better system for daily announcements. As the project progresses, the SGA and the University administration hope to create a central hub of information that will incorporate daily announcements, event calendars for student groups and University news. Second, the committee is cooperating with the Office of Transportation to create a pilot program for shuttles to Towson Mall and Hampden on Saturdays during the spring semester. Finally, the committee is working on a number of smaller projects such as creating the "Student Picks" section in CharMar, opening up more spaces for recreational sports use, installing printers in the AMRs, delineating gender neutral bathrooms and putting USB outlets in the library.

The Safety, Sustainability, and Development (SSD) Committee has been selling Hopkins travel coffee mugs at campus events for \$5. When students use these mugs at any of the campus cafés, they get a discount on their coffee and at the same time reduce paper-cup waste. The money

collected from the sales will go towards funding a large sustainability project (There are still mugs left for sale so make sure to check the SGA Facebook page for sale times.) They also successfully executed the Public Security Announcements contest and co-hosted the third annual Security Week. They are also in the process of planning a St. Baldrick's spring charity event.

The Academic Affairs (AA) Committee has secured blackout exam dates for the Monday after Spring Break and the Monday after Spring Fair. They also sent a proposal to the Academic Council for Latin Honors. The average GPA at Hopkins is substantially lower than at our peer institutions; Latin Honors would put Hopkins GPAs into context, making undergrads more competitive directly out of college.

The AA Committee has also focused on the improvement of the academic advising experience. One ongoing initiative is the development of a peer-mentoring program to assist underclassmen with course selection and other areas of student life. The program is set to pilot this Spring during the Fall 2014 registration period. AA also plans to create sample schedules for undecided majors in broad academic areas including social sciences, natural sciences and humanities. The committee is also developing potential criteria for the creation of a biochem major, along with neuroscience and political science minors.

The finance committee has funded multiple student ventures through SGA including Mover and the condoms in the library. The Appointments and Evaluations Committee has been interviewing with and proposing groups for approval or denial to all of SGA. This semester SGA also partnered with the senior leadership consultants to ensure that all new student groups have proper advising in order to suc-

ceed and group at Hopkins.

The class councils have also been hard at work. The senior class council has worked with the President's Office to provide student input in choosing a commencement speaker that represents the values of the Class of 2014 and the university as a whole. It has also created a number of events designed to facilitate class community, including happy hours at Mex and Mother's, a Wine and Cheese night and free breakfast at the FFC. As we move into the second semester, we hope to create a "disorientation" week in April, which will have a number of events that will help to prepare us for life in the real world.

The junior council kicked off the semester with two well-attended bonding events: a welcome back cake for the class in early September as well as a BBQ in early October. They also booked and organized the larger details of the Junior Class Boat Cruise to take place on April 17, 2014. In addition, granted \$1,000 from the Student Life grant, they joined with the Senior Class Council to host a Student-Faculty Social Hour, which took place in early November. Now, we are working on assessing the interest of the class in a time capsule to be opened at a later class reunion.

The sophomore class council has sent out several surveys soliciting and actively following student feedback. With the help of the Executive board, they also gave out late night ice cream to sophomores locked outside of Commons on the night of the fire to boost moral. After sponsoring an extremely successful trivia night with the freshmen class council, they are all set to hold another one next semester.

The freshmen class council has also worked hard to make the freshman class feel at home in their first year at Hopkins. At Lighting of the Quads we hand-

ed out holiday care packages in order to send students into their final exams in a cheery spirit. In addition, we set up an FFC Suggestion Page on Facebook to ensure all students to have the best dining experience possible.

The SGA is extremely dedicated to increasing school spirit and the sense of community on campus. With the help of the Student life office, Beta Theta Pi and the Hop, SGA has held many spirit events this fall that boosted athletics attendance. A senator has successfully restarted the JHU Cheerleading team, and in the spring, the SGA plans to help fund and found a spirit group dedicated to going to games and boosting the Blue Jay Spirit.

The executive board started a new monthly event in which the SGA solicits requests and problems from the student body in exchange for free food. This has been much more successful than previous town halls because it does not take much time and more people contribute. Many of the initiatives the SGA has been working on so far this year have come from those suggestions.

In response to the student outrage the instatement of the inter-session fee, SGA wrote a memorandum to the administration explaining the reasons for concern and asking for the fee to be removed. After much conversation, the fee was elevated for this year. The SGA played an integral role in the removal of the fee.

The SGA team already has many more projects planned for the spring, but we're always looking for student input. If you have any ideas, please let us know and make sure to watch out for future announcements by liking us on Facebook. The SGA is working for you, so make sure to tell us what you want!

Kyra Toomre is the Executive Secretary of the SGA. Her views reflect those of the SGA at large.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Dining Winter Break Closedown Hours and Service Schedule



Friday, December 20

Fresh Food Cafe
Regular service ends at 2PM
Modified dinner from 5-8PM

Nolan's
Modified menu from 5-8PM

Charles Street Market and Stone Mill Bakery

Closes at 6PM

Market at Levering & Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Normal Hours

Saturday, December 22

Fresh Food Cafe
Continental breakfast from 7-10AM

Nolan's
Closed

Charles Street Market and Stone Mill Bakery

Closed

Market at Levering & Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Closed

Monday, December 23

Market at Levering

Open 11AM-2PM

Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Open 8AM-3PM

All other facilities closed

Tuesday, December 24

Market at Levering

Closed

Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Open 8AM-Noon

All other facilities closed

Wednesday, December 25

All facilities closed

Thursday, December 26 & Friday, December 27

Market at Levering

Open 11AM-2PM

Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Open 8AM-3PM

All other facilities closed

Monday, December 30

Market at Levering

Open 11AM-2PM

Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Open 8AM-3PM

All other facilities closed

Tuesday, December 31

Market at Levering

Closed

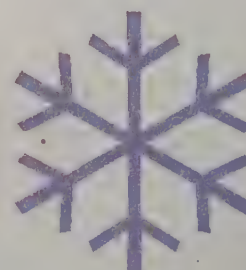
Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

Open 8AM-Noon

All other facilities closed

Wednesday, January 1

All facilities closed



*Market at Levering: Grill and One Bowl Stations only stations open

THE B SECTION

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DECEMBER 7, 2013

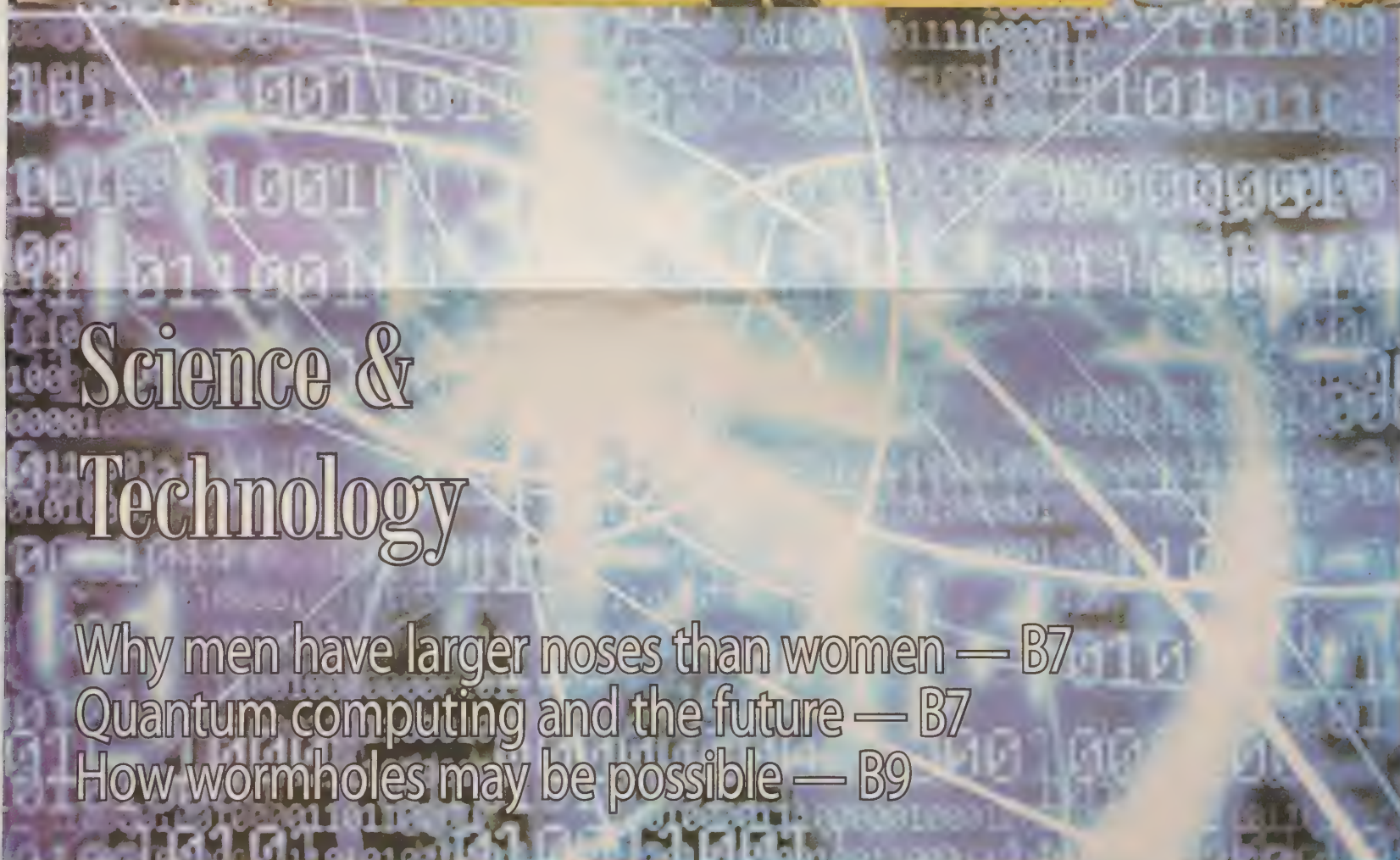


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YOUR WEEKEND DEC. 5-8

Thanksgiving break spent away but still relaxing, enjoyable time

By CAMILLE KO
Your Weekend Columnist

On Thanksgiving (a.k.a. Food Coma Day), I spent the evening with my roommate Ashley's family in Brooklyn. For the previous two days, I'd stayed with Ashley at her house in Jersey, where we'd both done some intense pre-holiday dieting in preparation for the next day's imminent onslaught of food.

After winding our way through the traffic-jammed city street, we arrived at Ashley's relatives' house in Borough Park. Her uncle and aunt had already prepared snacks for everyone: seafood salad topping with crackers, Thai spring rolls, fried plantains and the most delicious onion rings that I have ever tasted in my life (no offense, FFC). You know that things are bad when you start feeling the beginnings of a food coma even before the actual dinner.

After playing with the family puppies Chief and Baxter, playing dress-up

with Ashley's two younger cousins and watching an awesome episode of *Doctor Who*, we all sat down for the official Thanksgiving dinner. Admittedly, it was my first time eating at the adult table rather than at the kids' table at my relatives' house in Los Angeles. I won't lie, I felt kind of proud.

That night, I passed out into a blissful, food-induced sleep. Ashley and I slept over at her relatives' house while the rest of her family headed back to Jersey. The next morning, we had plans to walk around New York with some of our Hopkins friends who were nearby. I was really excited since it was my first time in NYC.

For breakfast, we met up with four of our friends to eat dim sum. Much to the disbelief of my friends, I'd never eaten dim sum before. Typically, the people at dim sum places speak Cantonese. Fortunately, we had our friend Shirley to speak for us, since the rest of us couldn't speak Cantonese. Everything was de-

licious — from the steamed buns to the apricot tarts. I have to say though, that eating chicken feet is not worth the effort.

After eating, we walked around Union Square and Times Square. I candidly admit that I was a shameless tourist. Props to my roommate for patiently putting up with my photo stops and my spaz-like squealing when it started snowing. Because it was Black Friday we didn't stay to long in the stores. We did find a park where some vendors were selling holiday presents and warm food. There, Ashley and I had a gingerbread waffle coated with special chocolate sauce. Although, I think our impromptu person with a stoner guitarist who called himself MC Undershirt was probably the best thing from that day.

Even though I was a little disappointed that I couldn't spend Thanksgiving with my family, I still had an amazing time exploring New York.



COURTESY OF KAITLIN MARIE VIA FLICKR

The Philadelphia Magic Gardens is an outdoor gallery of glass mosaics by Philly native, Isaiah Zagar.

Philly trip includes new experiences

By KEVIN WELLS
Your Weekend Columnist

This Thanksgiving weekend I had the pleasure of spending Black Friday in Philadelphia (and Delaware). Fun fact: Delaware has no sales tax, so our group went shopping there, and I found this snazzy jacket for about 60 percent off the original price. Needless to say, it was a successful trip. After leaving Delaware and getting to Philadelphia the group went in search of America's roots going on a tour of Independence Hall. While my lacking knowledge of American history undermined my experience there, it was still overwhelming to have seen the birthplace of American democracy firsthand.

Afterwards, we headed to the Philadelphia Magic Gardens, an outdoor gallery of glass mosaics by Philadelphia native Isaiah Zagar, who studied Peruvian, Chinese, Indian and American art, giving him a very diverse palette through which his art took form. That same night we drove over to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which was an incredible experience. Person-

ally, I have a predisposition against modern art because I've always found it hard to interpret an artist's intentions if they're not overt. The Philadelphia Museum of Art easily transformed my entire way of approaching art, singlehandedly. I currently work at the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) and have done research primarily on American art, so I immediately fixated toward that once arriving. Most of the pieces in the American gallery were from the mid-1800s, during the time leading up to the Civil War and following it, but it was incredible to see the politicization of art even during this time. One piece in particular, Christian Schuessle's *The Young Recruits*, seemed to be a clever foreshadowing of the Civil War with a charismatic officer leading a group of children while a storm begins to brew in the background. Disclaimer: I am inept at interpreting art, but I really admire political art. Rambling aside, it was pretty cool going to the Philadelphia Museum of Art after having researched several of these artists for the BMA.

Before visiting the Philadelphia Museum of Art, we had dinner at Han Dynasty, a great Szechuan, family-style restaurant where tables regularly share entrees and appetizers. Having grown up eating Cuban food, which is devoid of spice, the food was challengingly spicy, making some of the entrees inedible for me. The safe orders (black bean chicken and garlic pork) were incredible in their own right, and the restaurant offers unlimited rice; it was a welcome change to campus food.

I guess that was really it for what we did. There's a ton more to do, like the aquarium in Campden, shopping centers in Chestnut Hill, Fairmount Park, Philosophical Hall and more. My first trip to Philadelphia was a major letdown, but this trip renewed my faith in the city, and, despite the capitalist mess that is Black Friday, it proved to be riddled with hospitable, amicable people this time around. This was my first Thanksgiving away from home back in Florida, but this trip was a nice consolation and offered a welcome reprieve from the stress that college brings.



COURTESY OF BORIS DZHINGAROV VIA FLICKR

The iconic Times Square is a necessary but rather crowded stop for any newcomers to New York City.

Noteworthy Events



GAVIN ST. OURS VIA FLICKR

The George Washington Monument is strung with Christmas lights annually.

42nd Annual Lighting of the Washington Monument

5:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Washington Monument at Mount Vernon

If you've never seen the monument light up, this is the year to join in one of Baltimore's best holiday traditions. The Baltimore School for the Arts and the Morgan State Choir will perform, and there will be food from 30 local community vendors. The fireworks and beautifully strung Christmas lights are an essential part of the Baltimore experience. Santa Claus is also rumored to be making an appearance. To get to the monument, simply take the JHMI down to the Peabody stop. The towering stone monument is hard to miss.

Holiday Open House and Lady Baltimore Debut

4 p.m. — 9 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5

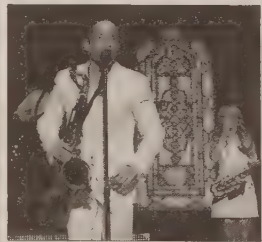
Maryland Historical Society

Join the Maryland Historical Society on the evening of the Lighting of the Monument for their Holiday Open House. The open house will be the first time that Lady Baltimore will be on view, free to the general public since its removal from the top of the Battle Monument. The 190-year-old statue was recently placed at the Maryland Historical Society. Even Baltimore's mayor, Stephanie Rawlings-Blake will be there to speak about Lady Baltimore's significance to the city. So don't miss Lady Baltimore's "debut" this Thursday!



RON COGSWELL VIA FLICKR

The Holiday Open House will be held at the Maryland Historical Society.



SLGCKGC VIA FLICKR

Dave Koz performs (left); A previous Night of 100 Elvisses (right).

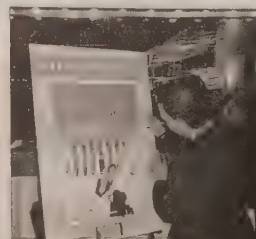


MARK RICKS



RICHARD ANDERSON

Civil War Christmas performed previously (left); B'more QFest (right).



B'MORE QFEST VIA FACEBOOK

Calendar

12/5

Dave Koz (The Lyric)

12/6

Night of 100 Elvisses (Lithuanian Hall)

World Holiday Traditions (National Aquarium in Baltimore)

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra: Handel's Messiah (Meyerhoff Symphony Hall)

12/7

Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Hippodrome Theatre)

Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration (Center Stage)

12/8

Baltimore's Queer Film & Media Festival (Universal Catering & Events)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A Christmas Carol remains a lasting holiday tradition

By AUBREY ALMANZA
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Washington D.C.'s Ford's Theater — famously known as the site of Abraham Lincoln's assassination — is hosting the performed adaptation of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.

The well-known holiday favorite tells the story of Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge, an acrimonious and stingy old grouch enduring a detestable Christmas season. For reasons initially unknown, Mr. Scrooge is repulsed by the joy that characterizes his community. Instead of participating in the annual merriment, Ebenezer bitterly scours the neighborhood in search of those indebted to him to demand repayment.

After repeatedly insulting and depressing those around him, Ebenezer solidifies his reputation as cold-hearted, uncompromising and — most notably — vehemently abhorrent of all Christmas spirit. It takes a night of unexpected visits from three ghosts, Past, Present and Yet to Come, to understand the deep-seated

reasons behind his vile behavior.

Audiences travel with Mr. Scrooge and the ghosts to revisit Ebenezer's unfortunate childhood memories and multiple loss of loved ones. Scrooge is forced to bear witness to the effects of his greediness — namely the ill state of Tiny Tim and the abandonment felt by his nephew. Ebenezer is prematurely exposed to his fate and panicked by the prospects of dying alone and forgotten.

This eventful Christmas eve strikes a chord in Mr. Scrooge, inducing a change of heart and a vow to change his "bahumbug" ways. The story ends with Ebenezer generously donating, opening his home to visitors and embracing the holiday mentality.

Dickens's novel, written in the Victorian Era, has stood the test of time in movie, theater and an abundance of spin-off adaptations. Visit the historical Ford's Theater throughout the remainder of December to hear the "God bless us, everyone" line that continues warm audiences everywhere.



COURTESY OF AUBREY ALMANZA

A Christmas Carol warmed audiences with the joy of the holiday spirit.

By CHANEY
GIORDANO
For The News-Letter

On Saturday, Nov. 23, Hopkins' sketch comedy group, Throat Culture, put on one of their hilarious comedy shows in the Arellano Theater of Levering Hall.

As their many flyers promised for days leading up to the event, the show dished up plenty of "toilet talk." Throat Culture has never been known for their kid-friendly sketches, and this one was no exception.

The show began with Throat Culture's usual warning about the show containing content that wasn't exactly family appropriate, before leaping into the first sketch.

The show opened with a sketch called "Good Cop, Bad Horse" in which a perpetrator was interrogated by a sarcastic cop and his partner, an aggressive horse who succeeded in scaring a confession out of the suspect. It may have helped that the horse was going berserk from its daily dose of cocaine.

In a sketch called "Lame Birth," a couple is told they can not have their newborn son because something is irreversibly wrong with him. He is too lame for society.

When the mother insists on at least saying goodbye, her baby is brought to her and asks for vegan food. The mother realizes with horror how lame her baby is and throws him from her lap, screaming.

Another sketch, "Fred and Ted," stars two business consultants named Fred and Ted who consult the owners of a floundering business. Fred and Ted partake in endless nonsensical banter to convince the owners they can save their company.

At the end of the sketch, the owners are informed that they're being liquidat-



COURTESY OF THROAT CULTURE

Sketch comedy troupe Throat Culture once again caused audiences to burst out in roars of laughter.

ed, making Fred and Ted's services unnecessary. They are, however, paid generously. They celebrate this pay by dancing and rolling in their money.

Throat Culture also explored different mediums in this show. "Baby Breathing" was a sketch pre-recorded and edited into a mock infomercial for the world's creepiest child's toy, a baby doll that audibly breathes. Juxtaposing the commercial for this startling doll with a catchy jingle was an ironic combination that received plenty of laughs.

The most acclaim arguably came for "Ermagedden," a sketch consisting of three beats. The sketch starred Merlvina, played by Matt Moores, whose speech impediment caused her to pronounce "Oh my God" as "Er Merh Gerd."

Merlvina appeared first confronting her parents about her pregnancy, next speaking at the funeral of her scuba diving instructor and finally starring in a movie scene alongside Bruce Willis. In all three instances, her ridiculous

wig and hilarious speech impediment were side splitting.

"I think our writing was really good for this one. It's been getting continually better," sophomore Utkarsh Rajawat said about the show.

"Unlike some previous shows, these sketches weren't all written by people who are graduating," Rajawat said.

In this Throat Culture show, Rajawat authored "FBI Sketch," in which FBI agents train a new recruit to detect terrorist activity online using only a variety of ridiculous code words.

Throat Culture shared the stage with stage with Nevergreen, Loyola University's sketch comedy group, who did two sketches.

In the first sketch, "Scary Campfire Stories," a camp counselor told a series of terrible scary stories before finally terrifying his campers. The second, "Wendell," was about the

world's worst blind date.

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This show was undoubtedly one of Throat Culture's best. If you missed it, be sure to catch their upcoming comedy show this spring.

Character commitment abounds in Dallas Buyer's Club

By NICOLETTE
HATZIDIMITRIOU
For The News-Letter

A threesome beneath the stands of a rodeo.

This is how *Dallas Buyer's Club* starts, immediately characterizing the coked up, womanizing jerk who is Ron Woodroof, played by Matthew McConaughey.

The movie goes on to tell the true story of how Ron Woodroof's life completely changes after he is diagnosed with HIV and AIDS in 1985. Unable to obtain the experimental drug that might extend his life, Woodroof takes matters into his own hands, smuggling non-approved medications into the U.S. from Mexico, not only to treat his own AIDS symptoms but also to provide help to other AIDS sufferers.

A part from the incredible narrative, the film stands out because of the powerful performances given by its actors, particularly McConaughey and singer/actor Jared Leto.

In this film, McConaughey showcases his acting abilities and his commitment to his work by physically transforming himself from the muscular, romantic comedy heart throb we've all grown to expect him to portray, to a skeletal, unattractive homophobe. McConaughey isn't afraid

but also in terms of personality. His character is ignorant, stubborn and destructive. However, McConaughey's raw emotional performance allows audiences to see past this harsh exterior to a man who is lonely, scared and simply trying to stay alive. McConaughey's performance in this film proves that he's truly a

alone in his powerful performance. Jared Leto shines as Rayon, a gay transvestite who also suffers from AIDS and quickly becomes friends with Woodroof. Leto embodies his character completely, adopting a girlish southern accent and mimicking the mannerisms of a woman. Although Leto's character doesn't have as much screen time as McConaughey's, Leto's performance is especially memorable, bringing much needed moments of humor to the film through his and McConaughey's strong friendship, as well as depth to his character. As he has with his previous films, such as *Requiem for a Dream*, in which he portrays a heroin addict, Leto delivers a heart-wrenching performance, breathing emotion into every one of his lines.

The commitment and raw emotional honesty of these actors makes the narrative even more poignant. In the film, McConaughey and Leto struggle to provide affordable treatment

See DALLAS BUYERS, PAGE B4

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Jared Leto, Jennifer Garner
Director: Jean-Marc Vallée
Run Time: 117 min.
Rating: R



MOVIEPOSTER.COM

Matthew McConaughey provides an extraordinary, powerhouse performance in *Dallas Buyers Club*.

to get ugly with this role, not only in terms of appearance (as he is completely unrecognizable)

talented actor capable of playing more than just a romantic lead.

McConaughey isn't

Musical Theatre Class Showcase impresses

By NARÉ
NAVASARDYAN
For The News-Letter

Merrick Barn has the atmosphere of a place where real theater spirit wanders unrecognized.

Unlike other campus venues, it is small, dark and cozy. The intimate stage is embellished with a guitar played stylishly on the right side of the stage, giving the setting a vague bohemian feel.

This lesser frequented campus theater hosted the Musical Theatre Class Showcase's recent dress rehearsal. Peg Denithorne, the ambitious course instructor, and cast put on a promising dress rehearsal and expect to further wow at their opening performance.

The reasons to attend the showcase are numerous. Come find out if Sister Maria is a lamb, the devil or just a girl. Come to discover the nifty little Mormon trick of turning off your confused feelings dubbed "the gay." Come to learn the "Nazi word" for happiness at the misfortune of others. Attendees will realize the way to move on from someone once considered perfection, in the hopes of finding the ideal partner once more.

Invite your crush and gaze at him or her with stars in your eyes as "Falling Slowly" plays and hope that the message is clearly conveyed. "What Kind of Fool Am I" may put you in

a lonely mood, but you'll shortly be filled with tenderness and romantic optimism as the female performers in tiaras wait for their white knights in "I Know It's Today."

If not for any of the reasons previously provided, come to the showcase for the mesmerizing renditions of songs from "Phantom of the Opera."

"Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again," performed by sophomore Elizabeth Sylvester, was filled with a heart wrenching sadness due to a shattering loss. The song enchanted with its sincerity, purity and vocal expertise. Ryan Blake's performance of "The Music of the Night," a song conveying vulnerability while remaining alluringly dark, reached a professional caliber.

The last song of the night was a light-hearted parody based on the millions of singers who dream of Broadway. All of the students added their own flavor to the fun and charm, making the rehearsal a great taste of what is to follow. This was one of the showcase's merits. Allowing students the creative license to infuse their own creative style is a priceless experience to behold.

Don't miss the Musical Theatre Class Showcase on Dec. 17. If it is anything like its predecessor, it will be a theatrical event not to be missed by any Hopkins student, thespian or otherwise.

Jennifer Lawrence shines in *Catching Fire* Dallas Buyers Club depicts struggles of AIDS victims

The Hunger Games sequel surpasses its predecessor in every regard

The winter season is upon us, and with it comes the second batch of blockbusters. Yes, come Christmas time, cinemas are filled to the brim with the second most anticipated blockbuster hits of the year; all the films that Hollywood was too scared to release in the coveted summer slots. This is a time filled with sequels, quirky comedies and "artistic" films, clearly trying too hard to win an Oscar.

However, this season has earned its reputation for a reason: Indeed, the fall/winter season is well-known for releasing new installments in popular film franchises, and this year is no exception. This year's holiday blockbuster? *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. Because nothing says "'tis the season" like children killing children.

Catching Fire is, as its full title suggests, a continuation of the 2011 adaptation of *The Hunger Games*, by Suzanne Collins. Loosely resembling the famed *Battle Royale* series, the series focuses on the exploits of one Katniss Everdeen played by Jennifer Lawrence. In a dystopian future, the Capital of the country of Panem keeps its civilian populace in line through a rather unorthodox means: Every year, they select one young man and woman from each of the 12 districts and pit them together in a fight to the death known as the Hunger Games. The winner is awarded fame and fortune, while the 23 losers are obviously less fortunate.

If you do not want to have aspects of the first film spoiled, please proceed to the next paragraph, as it is unfortunately impossible to introduce *Catching Fire's* plot without some minor spoilers. The film picks up several months after the first film left off. Katniss and her fellow Hunger Games participant Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson), now living in wealth and luxury, remain haunted by the events of the first film. Traumatized and confused as to her



In *Catching Fire*, Katniss and Peeta's strength and courage are put to the test in a brand new arena.

What's really amazing about this film is how it manages to surpass its predecessor in every possible way. From the plot, the pacing, the atmosphere, acting, and cinematography, *Catching Fire* is able to stand as a more than worthy successor to *The Hunger Games*.

In terms of plot, the story functions much better than in the previous film. Whereas the prequel was plagued with a lot of buildup and little payoff, this film instead has equal amounts of both. The film shifts the focus from just Katniss and the

feel all the more potent; the actors play no small roll in enthralling the audience.

Jennifer Lawrence brings a remarkable amount of energy to her portrayal of Katniss Everdeen. One of my primary complaints with the first *Hunger Games* was solely with how boring Katniss was as a character: very emotionless, very dead-

pan. While these aspects are certainly an integral part of Katniss' character, there is a line between disconnected and disinterested, and Lawrence had clearly crossed it. This

each is very clearly shown as being their own person. There are no throwaway characters in the film this time, something which is greatly appreciated. In fact, it serves to sharpen the "edge" of the film. While there are antagonists — both young and old — they no longer feel like textbook antagonists. They have lives, goals, agendas and fears; they have a humanity which is easy to latch on to.

Of course, not every performance can be so perfect. Hutcherson's performance as poor lovelorn Peeta, while functional, unfortunately pales when compared with the powerhouse work around him. His performance is not bad, by any stretch of the imagination, but it is clearly far less seasoned than the others. For a character allegedly so invested in everything that happens in the games, he is rarely able to convey the depths of his feelings in his face or voice.

Other welcome changes appear in the film's cinematography, for which I cannot thank director Francis Lawrence enough. Gone are the ten-thousand face close-ups of the first film. Gone are the oddly placed jump-cuts. And, most importantly, gone is the incredibly irritating "shaky-camera."

Rather than constantly shaking the camera to convey a false sense of adrenaline and movement, the film instead holds long, steady, sweeping shots, which encapsulate the action yet remain fast-paced enough to keep the energy high. As a result, everything that happens in the film manages to both be tense and easy to see.

While by no means a perfect film, and admittedly a little slow-paced at times, *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* accomplishes what any good sequel film should strive to achieve: being a marked improvement over its predecessor. With stronger plots, performances and craftsmanship, *Catching Fire* is a fine way to ring in the season's blockbusters.

Overall Rating: 4/5

CATCHING FIRE

Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth
Director: Francis Lawrence
Run Time: 146 min.
Rating: PG-13



COURTESY OF DOMILLE4EVER VIA FANPOP

Once again, Jennifer Lawrence does not disappoint as the heroine, Katniss, in the *Hunger Games* sequel.

games to Katniss and how she plays into the workings of the entire world of the movie; this allows the film to branch off and explore aspects of the series' world beyond simply "children killing children." Using Snow as the primary antagonist creates much more suspense, as the characters' situations feel far more helpless. And, as that helplessness grows, the bonds between the characters begin to feel that much more important.

Of course, the writing isn't the only thing making these relationships

time, however, it feels as though she has grown into the role more and is better able to convey a wider range of emotions. It is much easier to empathize with the protagonist this time around, in no small part thanks to Lawrence's emotional performance.

Additionally, this film adds a very large number of supporting characters, each with very distinct personalities and quirks; while many of them are given very small roles and often no more than perhaps 10 to 20 lines of dialogue in the film,

Flashframe Film Reviews



Tim Freborg

Dallas Buyers Club depicts struggles of AIDS victims

BUYERS CLUB, FROM B3
to AIDS sufferers through their buyer's club without being shut down by a relentless FDA agent. McConaughey accurately captures Woodroof's selfless determination in this endeavor, despite the number of people against him, including former friends who avoid him after finding out he has AIDS. In fact, the way McConaughey and Leto are treated in the film by some of the other characters gives audiences insight into the degrading way AIDS sufferers used to be treated. In doing so, the film calls our attention to the cruelty and inhumanity of any kind of discrimination.

Although effective in its emotional intensity, the film was at times a bit heavy-handed when trying to relay a point. The blatant referencing of Rock Hudson's HIV positive diagnosis in the beginning of the film seemed like a forced and obvious attempt at foreshadowing and wasn't necessary to establish Woodroof's homophobia.

There were also scenes that could have been made

to feel more complete. One of Leto's final scenes in the film, for example, could have been better dramatized but instead is cut short, diminishing the emotional impact of the scene. The final scene of the film also ends abruptly. Instead of leading to more action, as the beginning of the scene suggests will happen, the scene merely stops. Although the narrative itself wraps up nicely, the final scene feels as though it were unnecessarily added simply so that the filmmakers could end on a specific image.

Overall, the film is successful in portraying the brave and selfless actions taken by Ron Woodroof and Rayon and capturing the highs and lows of their struggle. As soon as the film starts, the audience is hooked. From that initial scene onward, passionate acting and amazing narrative hold the audience's attention. At the end of the film, viewers are left with a sense of determination, hope and love for Ron Woodroof, a true hero that many people never even knew existed.



COURTESY OF VIOLETSTORMBUD VIA FANPOP
Jared Leto (right) lost nearly 30 pounds to play Rayon in the film.

Throat Culture delivers improved sketches

TOILET TALK, FROM B3
online using only a variety of ridiculous code-words.

Throat Culture shared the stage with stage with Nevergreen, Loyola University's sketch comedy group, who did two sketches.

In the first sketch, "Scary Campfire Stories," a camp counselor told a series of terrible scary stories before finally terrifying his campers. The second, "Wendell," was about the world's worst blind date.

This was Throat Culture's fourth time working with Nevergreen. Nevergreen, like Hopkins' own comedy troupe, writes and performs original sketches multiple times throughout the year.

Throat Culture has twice traveled to Loyola to perform in Nevergreen's comedy shows, and this was Nevergreen's second time making a guest appearance here at Home-

wood.

The show ended with a musical sketch called "Boy Sea Shanty," starring Ben Ketter. Ben sang a ballad narrating a ridiculous tale, which he called his life story. It was accompanied by a video presentation with Ben's face cropped onto hilarious images.

Ben ended the show because, as a graduating senior, this was his final show with Throat Culture. Rajawat commented on Ben's leave, stating "He's amazing and everyone's going to miss him."

This show was undoubtedly one of Throat Culture's best yet, with noticeably improved dialogue and character commitment.

If you weren't fortunate enough to attend Throat Culture's recent "Toilet Talk" event, be sure to catch their upcoming comedy show this spring.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* explores deception and tragedy

Death acts as a major theme, illuminating characters' inner selves

By ALLI GRECO
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Death: the word alone seems so somber and singular. In the simplest and most familiar terms it casts its gloomy pall over a life and swiftly ends it for all eternity. But what is death, really?

Is it solely a part of nature's cycle, or can it affect other pieces that make up the puzzle of man? William Shakespeare, the playwright of *Hamlet*, claims that it can. It can be argued that in order for Shakespeare to make even more poignant the extremely tragic downfalls of nearly every character in the play, he needed to reinforce the claim that the human spirit can die along with one's physical being.

For some characters it takes an accumulation of offences to destroy their personal morals and thus their spirit. Take Claudius, for instance, one of the worst offenders in the play. He, a slimy serpent of sorts, poisons his brother, his royal predecessor, while that brother slept in the garden, essentially reenacting the Garden of Eden legend. Claudius spends nearly the entire play covering up his act and motives for killing.

However, it is only when Claudius feels backed into a corner by Hamlet's scheming and witnesses the play in which the mirror of nature has been held up to his face that he confesses his sins.

If he felt that Claudius was sincere in his lamen-

tations, Hamlet might be able to begin to forgive Claudius for having killed his brother. However, it is clear that Claudius's guilt is not genuine, and his actions prove him to be a guiltless predator. The very fact that he conspires with Rosencrantz, Guildenstern and Laertes to kill Hamlet labels him an enemy of Hamlet's forever. Hamlet himself has some thinking to do about whether or not he should kill Claudius. If he kills him while he is praying, he might inadvertently send him to heaven, which is a fate a murderer does not deserve. Rather, what he ends up doing is sparing Claudius so that he can kill him later when the time is right and his soul will have no choice but to travel to hell. He is rotten even before he dies at the end of the play. Hamlet has a strange sense of morals, but at least his are not that way because of an unforgivable sin.

Furthermore, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are characters with whom death is associated, mainly to speak of the death of morals and friendship and the utter betrayal they demonstrate toward Hamlet. They originally arrive at Elsinore as "true friends" of Hamlet's, but they were really summoned by the royals, particularly Claudius to oversee his death to quell any suspicion concerning the murder. What is ironic is that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are the ones who end up dead in England, the very fate that was supposed to be saved for their "friend."

The audience would probably think that these two men had generally good feelings toward Hamlet, but they gets suckered into Claudius's plot and are afraid to speak up. Death can happen even to those who are well-intentioned, but they are not immune to the worst possible consequence if they betray a friend's trust.

The topic of death most certainly applies to Gertrude as well, as it relates to her betrayal to her son and late husband and her overall lack of a moral compass. Like Claudius, she is challenged with holding nature's mirror up to her own character. Hamlet then proceeds to make her so aware of her sins of letting the murder of her late husband go and then going off and marrying his brother that he nearly equates them in horridness. Also similar to that of Claudius, the final resting place of Gertrude's soul is in question.

Now that Hamlet is disgusted by her actions and referred to the devil and the destruction of her virtue in fire, one must wonder, even if Gertrude comes around and admits her guilt, will God spare her on the Judgment Day? She and Claudius have to live with the uncertainty of whether their pleas of forgiveness will really be taken to heart and if they are enough to save them from disgraceful afterlives.

Ophelia, the very girl who wishes to speak with Gertrude after her heartbreak concerning Hamlet, experiences a death of the

soul when she is rejected by her lover and a watery death in a stream as the climax of her despair

This innocent girl who has done nothing but be true with her feelings reflects on death at so young an age.

Hamlet, in a moment of madness, springs on Ophelia denials of love for her when it had been so evident that they have had an intimate relationship. He appears to feel guilty and remorseful about what he has done, but then he tells her essentially to go to hell where she can die in solitude away from the corrupted state of the world.

Because of this unexpected and tragic twist in events for this young lady, she thinks that she is flawed, that she has done something wrong to deserve such harsh treatment. She denounces herself, and after all of this self-loathing, this mix of heartbreak and unrequited love, she, like so many other characters goes off the deep end. . .literally.

One can just picture Shakespeare writing *Hamlet* and philosophizing about what it means to die, what it must feel like to confront one's death. Ophelia, for example, confronts her death, supposedly by accident. Was this suicide? Probably not, but it would not be surprising. Just as she falls over the edge of the brook, Hamlet, and arguably her controlling, manipulative father, Polonius, push her over the mental edge.

Taking this into account, perhaps Ophelia's death is less painful be-

cause she feels she has nothing to live for. If her potential husband rejects her and her father tries to control her every move, the two people who orchestrated the world of an Elizabethan woman, then what exactly does Ophelia have to live for?

One would imagine that death would come more naturally when one would have nothing more to live for in this life. Figuratively speaking, nature's mirror is held up to her in the brook's reflection, and she sees nothing but despair. Upon seeing her dead body in the casket, Hamlet comes to a revelation: Whereas before he flippantly pushed her away and was desensitized from all womanly affection, he begins to lament.

Therefore, Hamlet only feels something for her again when it is too late. Assuming her death was a suicide, he sees what effect he can have on another's life, putting his course of action into question.

Death for Hamlet needs to be a very tangible thing. He either needs to see a cadaver before him or hold part of one in his hands, like the skull of Yorick, the king's jester. Although Yorick was of lower rank, his head reduced of flesh is no different than that of any other. No matter what gender, or in this case rank, all people die the same death.

Hamlet faces his death and thus gained a new perspective on life when he is sent on his ill-fated ship to England. Now, he faces and actually holds death in his hand, weigh-

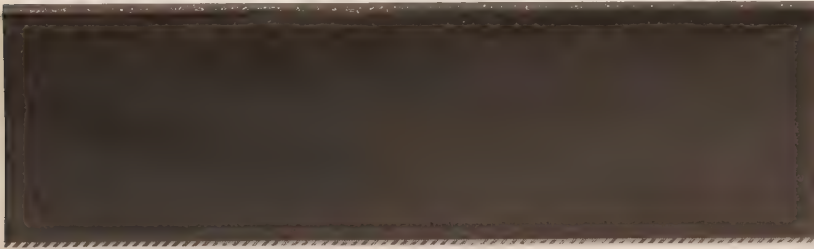
ing heavy matters such as his father's death, and the impending revenge on Claudius in his mind.

Although many in the play do, not all those who actually confront death are doomed to suffer it. Laertes and Hamlet look at each other's death when they duel, Gertrude holds death when she drinks the poisoned wine, and Claudius faces death when Hamlet forces him to drink the wine, but Horatio, although he too holds the goblet of poison to his lips, is persuaded not to drink. By staying alive, Horatio might continue Hamlet's memory and tell his story to the world.

Is it better to suffer and drag oneself through life, die (either by suicide or natural means), and return to dust, or to take control of it, reverse its present course and be a happy, productive citizen of the world?

Aside from Hamlet, not many characters do much to change the course of life, and, as a result, kill their spirits and literally face death. Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, Claudius and Gertrude find their morals on a downward spiral, while Ophelia soul dies of heartbreak, but everyone, with the exception of Horatio, dies bitter or distraught.

Whatever their paths are to end up at death's door, with the exception of Horatio, they all die void of purpose in life and became one with Earth again. It is clear that death is a driving force throughout the play and communicates a deeper messages about people.



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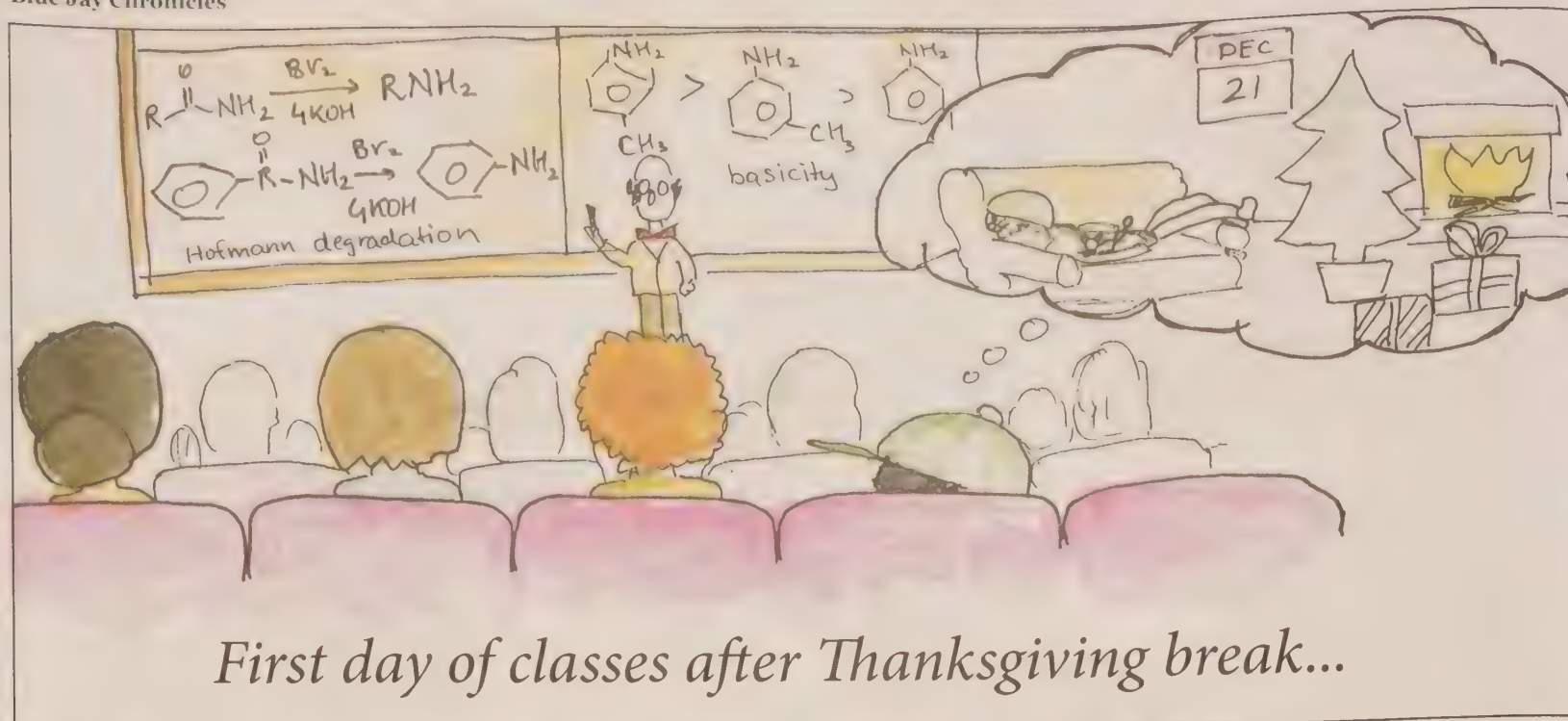
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CARTOONS, ETC.

Blue Jay Chronicles

By Sachi



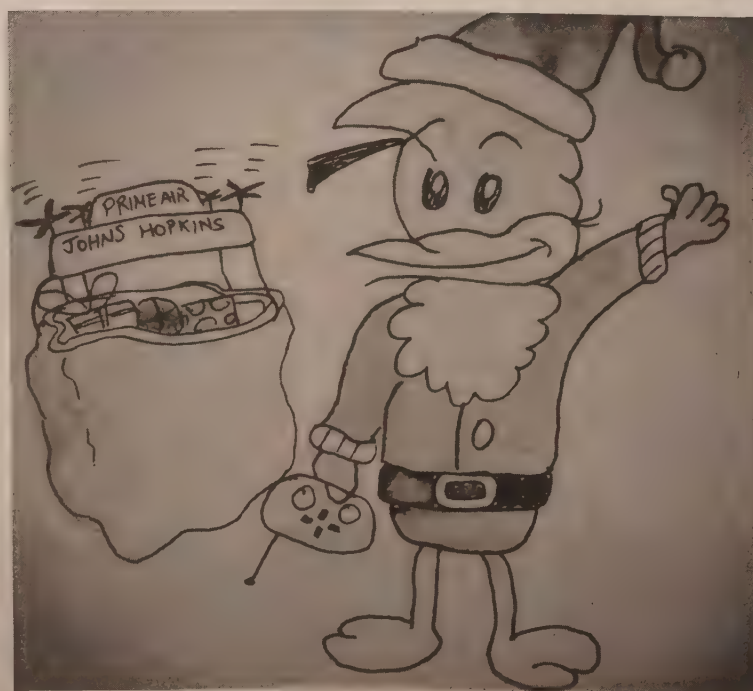
Post-Thaksgiving Blues

By Seol



We hope you have a warm
and joyous holiday season!
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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Legislation allows HIV-positive to donate organs

By **KELLY CARTY**
Staff Writer

On Nov. 21, President Obama signed the HIV Organ Policy Equity (HOPE) Act into law. This legislation will allow HIV-positive individuals to donate organs to HIV-positive patients.

Predictions say that this change will make available 500 to 600 more organs for transplantation every year. With 120,000 people in the United States waiting for hearts, lungs, kidneys and other organs, the HOPE Act is expected to significantly alleviate the national demand for

organ donation.

HIV-positive organ donation has been illegal since 1988 when the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) amended the National Organ Transplant Act to stop organ donation by HIV-positive patients in order to prevent infection.

Since 1988, the scientific community has made enormous strides in its understanding of HIV. Antiretroviral and other medications greatly extended the life expectancy of HIV-positive individuals. In fact, HIV is no longer the death sentence it was in the

1980s.

However, these medical advances have hit a roadblock in terms of HIV-positive organ transplantation. HIV-positive individuals waiting for kidneys, lungs or other organs, a growing number thanks to an extended life expectancy, are more likely to die on the transplant waiting list than those not infected because of the dangers associated with a more compromised immune system. Furthermore, about 25% of HIV patients also have hepatitis C, a disease that can only be treated with a liver transplant in

its advanced form. Thus, with an increasing number of HIV-positive patients waiting for organ donation and a greatly improved knowledge of HIV, it seemed unnecessary to block positive-to-positive transplantation.

Before the amendment could be overturned, however, the scientific community needed to prove positive-to-positive transplants would be successful. Elmi Muller, a transplant surgeon at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, provided much of the research that generated this proof. Muller has performed 26 positive-to-positive kidney transplants since 2008. Only two of these have failed.

Muller's experience sparked the interest of researchers in the United States including Dorry Segev, a transplant surgeon at Johns Hopkins Hospital. In an email to *The News-Letter*, Segev said Muller's research and his frustration with the congressional ban on positive-to-positive donations pushed him to look closer. "The first step was to estimate the potential impact of using these organs on our donor pool; this took about a year, drawing from two large data sources and estimating not only the number of organs that could be available but also the

SEE *HIV*, PAGE B8



STUDENTS.QUEEDU

Scientists have extended the lifetime of quantum systems to 39 minutes.

Quantum systems leap toward longer lifespans

By **MARK STUCZYNSKI**
Staff Writer

Ones and zeros are the most relevant numbers for anyone using a computer, cellphone, modern cable . . . the list goes on. In the modern world, the binary code has become nearly synonymous with computing. However, this may change in the near future. Quantum computing may soon burst into the scene, as it is inching out of the foggy realm of theory into a world of mainstream usage.

Scientists in the UK, Germany and Canada have developed a quantum system that can function for much longer periods of time than previous systems, by several orders of magnitude. At room temperature, the previously used systems last two seconds; this new one stays around for 39 minutes. The practical value of this invention is a huge leap in the development of functional quantum computing.

Atomic nuclei have a property of "spin," which can be interpreted as up or down. This fundamen-

tal component is similar to the binary computation of ones and zeros. In polarized magnetic fields, the spin of a given atom can be adjusted to either spin condition or, most interestingly, to angles between the two points.

This has the advantage over conventional computing in that a given atom can be superimposed between up and down spin, meaning it simultaneously occupies both states, allowing one atom to be involved in multiple calculations at the same time and amplifying the number of calculations a quantum system can perform to a prodigious degree.

In addition, the rotation of a given atom flips naturally once every 1/100,000 seconds, or 100,000 rotations per second. Essentially, quantum computers will not only be faster than today's computers, but because they can run operations in parallel, the volume of information that can be generated is immense.

This project has directed
SEE *QUANTUM*, PAGE B8



MEDICINE.YALE.EDU

Although already signed into law, new protocols need to be devised for HIV positive-positive transplant provisions.

Smallest FM radio will revolutionize cell phones

By **ELLI TIAN**
Staff Writer

In 1965, Intel co-founder Gordon Moore observed that as electronic devices such as cell phones and cameras decreased in size,

their processing power and memory capability grew exponentially. His conjecture, which soon became known as "Moore's Law," has become one of the driving forces behind technological advancement.

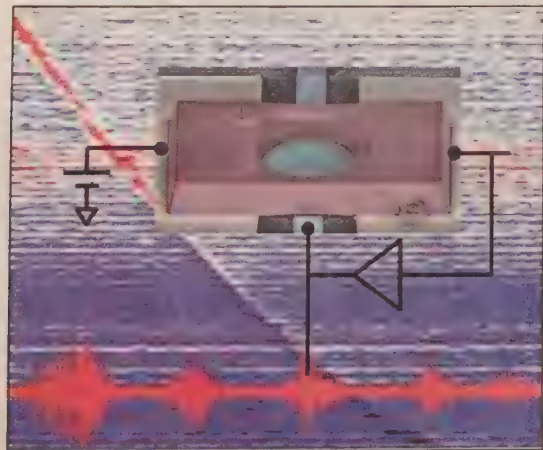
Over the past few decades, scientists and inventors have continually defied the limits of technology. We are all too accustomed to ultra-thin cell phones and super fast computers, the likes of which our grandparents and maybe even parents never could have imagined.

You might wonder if circuits and microchips will ever become so small that we won't be able to make anything smaller. While technological innovation is indeed slower than it was at the end of the 20th century, it does not seem like we have reached that limit quite yet. Two professors at Columbia University, James Hone and Kenneth Shepard, have created the world's smallest FM radio transmitter — a nano-electromechanical system

(NEMS) made out of graphene — that could shrink our cell phones even more.

Graphene is a single layer of carbon, the same element that makes up diamond or the "lead" in a pencil. The atoms in

SEE *RADIO*, PAGE B8



ENGINEERING.COLUMBIA.EDU

Graphene's durability make it a promising candidate for some electronics.

Beatboxers mimic foreign tongues

By **JOSH SCARALIA**
Staff Writer

Everyone is familiar with those things that may seem easy enough at first, but turn out to be ridiculously difficult. For many people, that thing is beatboxing.

Most people at one point or another have probably attempted to beatbox, but a lot of the time it just does not come out right. The way that beatboxers must move their mouths is truly remarkable, so remarkable that scientists at the University of Southern California decided to study it.

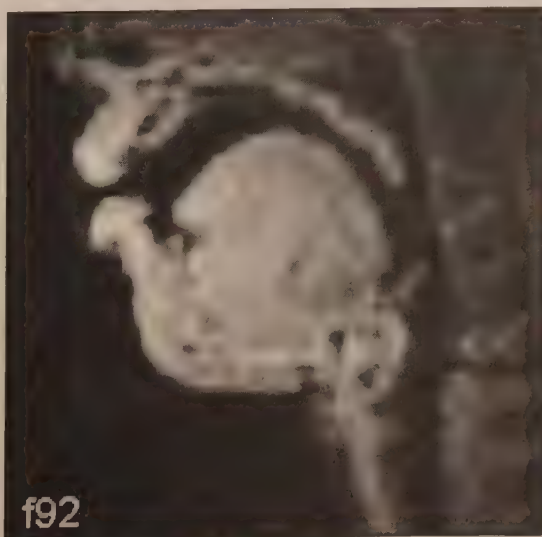
The research team developed a new magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology that can image in real time. Not only will this new imaging technique allow researchers to study how beatboxers make various sounds with their vocal cords, but

it will also allow them to understand how speech develops. This imaging technology will enable a greater understanding of vocal cord damage and allow for the develop-

ment of new therapies to treat it.

Through the beatboxing study, researchers came to discover that beatboxers are capable of

SEE *BEATBOX*, PAGE B8



SAIL.USC.EDU

New MRI techniques allow researchers to study beatboxing in real time.



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Is Pinocchio's super sniffer an indication of his fibbing habits or his abnormal amount of muscle tone?

Why do men have super schnozes?

By **MELANIE LEVINE**
Managing Editor

A recent study conducted by researchers at the University of Iowa found that, relative to body size, men's noses are on average 10 percent larger than women's.

This difference is most likely caused by sex differences in body composition and muscle mass. Women, who must nourish growing fetuses, have higher body fat percentages while men, who are generally associated with physical labor, have higher proportions of lean muscle. Lean muscle requires more energy to function so larger noses, because they can trans-

port more oxygen per breath to muscle tissues, may be an evolutionary response to maximize respiratory efficiency.

Led by Nathan Holton, an assistant professor at the UI College of Dentistry, researchers working on this study recorded nose and craniofacial measurements from 20 men and 18 women from age three to their mid-20s. Differences in nose size became apparent around age 11, coinciding with the average onset of puberty.

Adolescents develop a variety of secondary sex characteristics during puberty. For example, around age 11, men begin developing a broader

chest and shoulders while women begin to develop smaller waists and wider hips. The differences in muscle mass and body composition begin to show during puberty as well. Thus, nose size differences may be a part of these pubertal developments.

The correlation between sex and nose size is paralleled by other variables such as overall oxygen consumption, basal metabolic rate and daily energy requirements to support the hypothesis that larger noses play a crucial role in the energetics of the respiratory system.

This study explains a
SEE *NOSE*, PAGE B8

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

New MRI captures beatboxing in real time



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Beatboxers mimic percussion instruments by producing vocalizations found in many African countries.

BEATBOX, FROM B7

generating sounds from every language regardless of their own native tongue. For example, a beatboxer who only knows English and Spanish can replicate sounds characteristic of African languages that he's never even heard before. The common "snare drum" and "rim shot" sounds

are equivalent to pronunciations typically found in Xhosa (Eastern Cape, South Africa), Khoekhoe (Khoekhoe, Botswana), and !Xoon (Tuu, Namibia) languages. This fact led the researchers to believe that there exists a universal 'soundboard' from which all humans select their sounds. Scientists also acknowledged

that the sound of beatboxing is strangely addicting. Beatboxer sounds do not follow typical human vocal sounds such as vowel-consonant alternation. Because these natural sounds are not followed, beatboxers must learn how to overcome these natural language tendencies to create the characteristic percussion sounds.

Our human nature is to cue in on linguistic patterns in order to understand spoken words. In avoiding these natural patterns, beatboxers are able to create the illusion that the sounds are not coming from a human. Thus, we naturally believe that the beatboxer is not actually making the noise, making it seem all the more realistic.

Johns Hopkins senior beatboxer Matt McCauley gave his own thoughts on why beatboxing fascinates us.

"It's the unusual beats. Once you feel the rhythm, it infects you," McCauley said.

As for himself, McCauley has been "infected" for a while.

"I like beats. Whether it's banging on tables or blasting music on computers," McCauley said.

And it seems that everyone else likes his beats too.

No matter how you look at it, beatboxing is truly an art. While I will always have to resort to the good ole' "boots and cats," people like McCauley will continue to create unnatural beats for the rest of us to enjoy.



BATES.EDU

Humidity and heat are environmental influences that drive evolution.

Respiratory demands alter nose morphology

NOSE, FROM B7

similar correlation that is seen between modern humans and our ancestors, such as the Neanderthals. Archaic humans had larger noses, as well as larger rib cages and lungs, a difference researchers believe to be a direct result of their higher muscle mass. A higher muscle mass, whether in distant human ancestors or in modern man, puts more pressure on the respiratory system. This pressure makes it evolutionarily favorable to develop larger noses and more spacious lungs to accommodate greater breathing capacities.

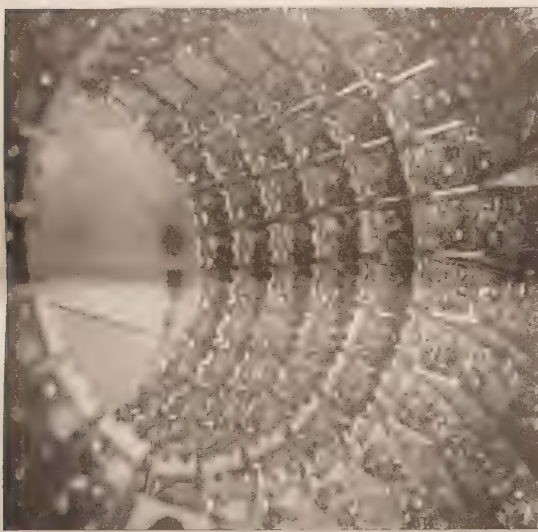
Although the study focused on individuals of European descent, the researchers believe that the results should hold true across all populations, noting that other biological differences between the sexes are consistent throughout the species.

Past studies have ex-

amined the global correlation between nose size and climate, concluding that nose sizes and shapes have evolved to best deal with the specific air qualities of the region. Heat and humidity are just some of the factors that affect our breathing patterns on a given day, so it is logical that over time, environmental variations would produce differences in nose size and shape to suit the properties of the air and the person's respiratory needs.

The influence of muscle mass and climate on nose size make it clear that the nose is more than just a scent-collector adorning the face. This organ plays a crucial role in determining our respiratory capabilities, and it is part of the intricate system that has evolved to bring oxygen to our cells and to remove carbon dioxide, allowing us to talk, run, dance and think in the most efficient way possible.

Scientists inch towards quantum computer reality



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Quantum computing, a fuzzy concept in science fiction, show promise.

QUANTUM, FROM B7

development in a very promising direction, but the experiments aren't perfect. While 39 minutes is great improvement over a few seconds, the system isn't robust enough to permanently maintain activity. Furthermore, the time and energy needed to produce the system drastically exceeds the amount of time the system is potentially viable.

In addition to these practical problems, scientists still need to figure out how to generate different quantum states in the system. Now, the necessary experimental conditions use magnetic fields that force all the atoms of the

system to be in the same quantum state. This dramatically limits information exchange. Designing a system that allows for each atom to exist in an independent quantum state and communicate information about its state to neighboring atoms is still a huge hurdle.

Regardless of these shortcomings, quantum science continues to benefit the human condition in subtle, yet important, ways. The applications of quantum computing are limitless and they have huge promise for the development of new thermodynamic, biochemical, and economic models. When the quantum leap hits, be ready to jump over.

HOPE Act raises new organ transplant concerns

HIV, FROM B7

money that Medicare could save in the process." According to Segev, "The combination of lives saved and health care dollars saved would be a strong argument to carry [the] cause on the Hill."

In June 2011, the positive-to-positive movement mushroomed onto the national scene. The American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the American Society of Transplantation, the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations and the United Network for Organ Sharing released a joint statement calling for positive-to-positive transplantation in the United States. On Capitol Hill, the scientific research spoke for itself, but it was difficult to generate interest.

"Showing members of Congress and their staff that this was a good idea was relatively straightforward; getting on their radar and then getting the bill on the larger congressional radar was more difficult," Segev wrote.

Brian Boyarsky, a Hopkins graduate who majored in public health, worked closely with Segev. He spent countless hours reaching out to anyone who would listen, and the work of people like Segev and Boyarsky did not go unanswered. Two years after the release of the joint statement, the

Senate approved the bill. The HOPE Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Nov. 12, and Obama signed the act into law nine days later. While federal legislation is a huge step for this movement, surgeons and medical researchers must wait for the OPTN to develop ethical and clinical standards to guide medical research on positive-to-positive transplants in the United States.

Even with these policy changes, positive-to-positive transplantation is likely to take hold slowly within the medical community due to unanswered scientific questions. Superinfection, or

the infection of an HIV-positive organ recipient with an antiretroviral drug-resistant form of the virus, is a very real possibility. If the donor is living, doctors can take time to genotype the HIV strain in the donor and can largely avoid this situation. However, if the donor is deceased, time constraints may not allow for these tests. Furthermore, it is still unclear how antiretroviral drugs will react with medications given during transplantation. They may increase the risk of rejection, pushing doctors to administer extremely high, possibly toxic levels of immunosuppressant medications

to HIV-positive organ recipients.

Despite these scientific concerns, Segev remains optimistic. "I'm sure that, given the huge volume of transplants in the United States, we will have the opportunity to learn a tremendous amount about how to optimize the outcomes of these transplants." The positive-to-positive movement is sure to significantly impact the progress of organ donation within the United States and, with forward-thinking surgeons like Segev, cutting-edge changes in the field are likely to occur right here in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins Hospital.



DISCOVER.UMN.EDU

The HOPE Act, signed into legislation by President Obama, opens a potential can of worms for organ donors.



ENGINEERING.UCSB.EDU

Graphene, a lattice of interlocking carbons, make up the smallest FM chips.

Graphene chip used to transmit radio signals

RADIO, FROM B7

graphene are arranged in a honeycomb lattice, which can stretch mechanically to create a radio signal. Changing how much the lattice is stretched changes the frequency of the radio signal, producing a frequency modulated (FM) wave. Furthermore, the lattice is the strongest material known to man and has electrical properties that make it an ideal material for small, durable electronic components such as NEMS. These are miniaturized versions of microelectromechanical systems (MEMS); the most commonly known ones are responsible for rotating tablet and phone screens based on the device's orientation.

Hone and Shepard's team harnessed these properties to build a specific graphene NEMS known as a voltage controlled oscillator. The system was able to generate a FM signal with a frequency of about 100 hertz, which is in the middle of the FM radio band. They observed that the signal from the graphene could change the frequency

of low frequency musical signals, which could then be detected by an FM radio receiver as ordinary as a car radio or a walkie talkie.

The small size and versatility of the graphene NEMS means that it could replace the cell phone "off-chip" component responsible for creating and processing radio signals. Such components are named because they are not directly integrated into the rest of the phone. Present day off-chip components are rather large and can use a lot of electrical power.

Like any other new technology, the system still has its bugs. Hone and Shepard are currently working to reduce unwanted signals produced by the graphene NEMS and to integrate the system into silicon circuits and microchips. This would make the device even smaller.

We won't be seeing graphene NEMS in our cell phones anytime soon, but chances are the technology will eventually become something we take for granted.

Google Android continues to have problems with lagging user interface

By SEAN YAMAKAWA
Staff Writer

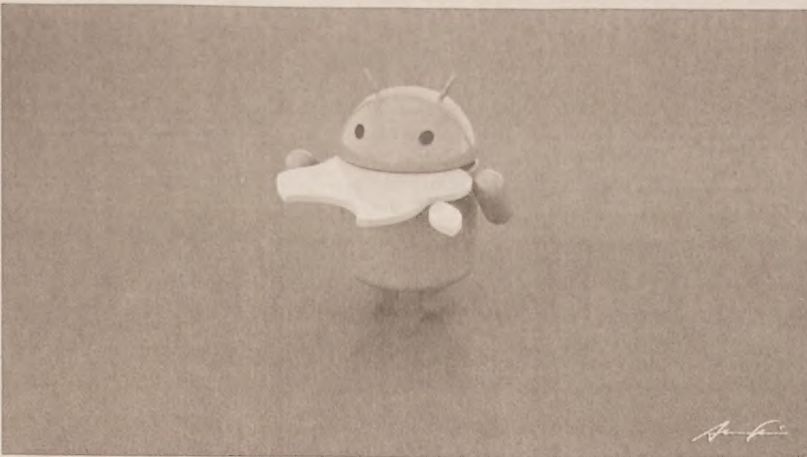
Since the introduction of Android, there have always been particularly high expectations for Google's popular operating system to deliver one of the best mobile phone experiences. Google offers an unique open-source platform that allows manufacturers and to a lesser extent, users, to customize their phones' software. With frequent, and sometimes rather extensive, updates, Google has made sure that Android always continues to stay a modern and convenient platform.

Yet, the same issues have plagued Android since its debut. The words "lag" and "stutters" have consistently ended up in Android smartphone reviews to this day. Earlier, many people blamed the sluggish interface on the hardware optimization with software, an area where some of the hardware vendors that use Android may have been dropping the ball. Another common explanation was a lack of "hardware acceleration" in the Android user interface (UI). In other words, there was not enough GPU contribution to home screen animations.

Android's 3.0 Honeycomb software was meant to change all of this. However, even with Android's newest Honeycomb or Nvidia's first dual-core CPU, called the Tegra 2 SoC, Google was unable to eliminate Android's sluggishness in the UI. The Honeycomb project turned out to be a huge tech flop for Google, and the project was soon shelved.

Then, a year later, Google again claimed to have finally eliminate Android's lag with Project Butter, which was delivered in Android 4.1 Jelly Bean. The project focused on users' complaints with regards to choppy animations and response lag. Google even demonstrated Jelly Bean's speed by releasing a side-by-side video of Jelly Bean's performance against Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich.

It was true — Android



Google's competitiveness in the operating system market is in question due to lagging problems in Android.

4.1 was leaps and bounds ahead of its predecessor's performance. However, compared to the smooth scrolling and animations of iOS, the operating system used by Google's competitor, Apple, Android could still not compete on the same playing field. Now, even after the release of Android 4.4 KitKat, the

notorious stutter between home screens and the scrolling lag in Chrome still persist. It is certainly a bewilderment that Android cannot fix these issues with the full force of Google behind its back, especially when Microsoft's Windows Phone can.

This brings up another problem for Android:

While Android has been updated with useful features every year, its competitors are quickly catching up and even surpassing them in some aspects. Windows Phone 8 epitomizes this tight competition. Though a relatively new platform, it's catchy UI, fluid animations and increasing

number of available apps have been quickly gaining attraction worldwide. Windows Phone's unique combination with top-notch hardware has made it an appealing option, especially in the lower-end smartphone market.

Even Apple has come back with both arms swinging against critics rebuking its stale platform and lack of productivity. With its iOS7 update, Apple added Control Center and updated its notification center, multitasking, web browser and Siri. Apple has also increased iWork compatibility between iOS and desktop OSX for better productivity — definitely better than the free OpenOffice suite preinstalled on Android KitKat. Even Siri is arguably better than Google Now, which was a major selling point of the KitKat platform. It's voice search is perhaps still more capable than Siri's, but Apple's Siri has more utility due to

its support from third-party companies. For example Chevrolet, Ford, Toyota and Honda have introduced Siri compatibility with their future vehicles.

Has Google's innovation come to a plateau? Certainly, Google must find a way to improve its sloth of an operating system, but otherwise Android is a fully capable mobile platform with many useful functionalities that other platforms do not offer. Google should focus on refining its experience, such as on the widely criticized new Message application on 4.4 KitKat. One area of innovation that Google must emphasize is productivity. As tablets and phones take advantage of laptop-like processors and memory, the software will have to deliver a corresponding experience. The mobile platform that can deliver the most easy-to-use and yet powerful user experience will succeed.

Wormhole possibilities: quantum entanglement explained

By MIKE YAMAKAWA
Science & Technology Editor

Ever taken a course in quantum physics? If not, you probably at least know that there's something inherently complex about the field that manages to perplex even today's greatest scientists. Einstein admitted that some parts of quantum physics are pretty "spooky." Well, something spooky may actually be occurring in the universe this very instant: the formation of a wormhole. It turns out, according to some physicists at University of Washington and Stony Brook University in New York, that this wormhole may be forming through something called quantum entanglement.

Quantum entanglement is, not too surprisingly, an extremely difficult concept to explain — the mathematics behind it can be very taxing. However, a simple thought process may help

to resolve some confusions about the fundamental idea of quantum physics.

Quantum theory deals with uncertainty and deals with physics at an atomic scale. When describing a quantum system, one can only make statements about the probability of a particle existing in a certain space. For example, if one is hypothetically describing a quantum poodle, he can say, "There is a 25% chance that my quantum poodle is sleeping at home, and a 75% chance he is watching TV with my dad." In other words, definitive statements can never be said about this quantum poodle.

This all changes when he goes home and sees his quantum poodle. If he locates his quantum poodle sleeping on a couch, it will be sleeping on a couch. In another scenario, he could have located his quantum poodle watching TV with his dad. Either could have

happened, and it doesn't actually happen until he comes home and sees his quantum poodle.

Another simple thought experiment can be done with traveling quantum particles. Say you have one particle, Sally, and another, Bob. They will be released to travel in two different directions: one towards Japan and one towards the moon. Both particles have a chance of being either Sally or Bob. Furthermore, there are people waiting at both locations to see which particle lands there.

Bob and Sally are released. You still have no idea which particle went which way. Quantum physics tells us that at this point, the particle can be either Sally or Bob. Finally some Japanese scientists find Sally traveling towards them. The one traveling to the moon turns out to be Bob. What Einstein found "spooky" about this was that somehow, with-

out any information being exchanged between Bob and Sally, one was able to turn into 100% Sally when measured, and the other 100% Bob, even though that when both particles were traveling, both particles were 50% Sally and 50% Bob. This is called quantum entanglement between two particles. Some how when the scenario for one particle is chosen, the

other one is instantaneously chosen as well.

Some physicists have found that this same phenomenon could happen to two black holes. If the behavior of one changes — say one of the black holes decided to become Bob — then the other one, without any "knowledge" of this change, turns into Sally, no matter how far they are in the galaxy. Spooky right?



Wormholes could exist in the universe through quantum entanglement.

Dear Students,

Over the past year, University administrators, staff and students have collaborated to form the Coalition for Sexual Violence Prevention and Awareness. As we prepare to officially launch SVPA in the upcoming semester, we are currently seeking motivated students to join us in fostering a safer campus environment.

SVPA has already made strides in tackling issues of sexual misconduct and is prepared for the work that lies ahead. We developed the Sexual Assault SafeLine, a service that provides support and assistance to victims at all hours; designed the mirror clings in University buildings and residences that define "consent" and list the resources available to students; launched a tee-shirt campaign to promote consent; trained students to administer bystander training; and more. We must magnify our efforts and are poised to do so as we approach our official launch.

SVPA has been structured such that its approach to issues of sexual misconduct is multifaceted and comprehensive. University administrators, staff and two student representatives will comprise the Steering Committee, which will be advised by three subcommittees, composed primarily of students: Education will address sexual misconduct through campus programming; Prevention and Response will implement effective training to prevent sexual assault and expand resources for victims; and Compliance will advise the University in developing related policies and ensure their proper implementation.

If you are interested in participating in any of the subcommittees please contact me for further information.

Susan Boswell
Dean of Student Life
sboswell@jhu.edu

Despite scare for Clarke, Women's X-C takes home another title

By ZACH ZILBER
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's cross country team took home its second national title at the NCAA Cross Country Championships at Hanover College on Saturday, Nov. 3.

Hopkins entered the championships as the top seed and defending champions. Naturally, every other team was looking to take them down.

"The night before the championship we had our usual coaches-team meeting where [Head Coach Bobby Van Allen] told us that we were going into this thing with a huge target on our backs," senior Holly Clarke said. "He said, and I quote, 'There are 31 other teams that want to be us right now. But I don't want to be anybody except for us.'"

After writing each other letters of encouragement, the girls prepared for the national championship the next day. Sophomore Hannah Oneda took everything in at the starting line.

"I just remember standing at the starting line and looking off,"

Oneda said. "It's completely empty when you look forward and then you look to your right and left, and there are just tons of girls. Before every race I tell myself that we're all trying to do the same thing. No matter how scared you are, the person next to you is just as scared."

The final race of the season then began as the gun sounded. Because of the hectic conditions, Van Allen found the task of coaching to be more challenging than normal.

"I was trying to run all over the place," Van Allen said. "At the NCAA Championships it's a little different than every other meet we go to due to the fact that there are 5,000 spectators running all over the place. It was pretty difficult for me as a coach to communicate with any of the runners during the race, so I was just trying to find areas on the course I could get to where there were as few people as possible so I could let them know exactly how they were doing and try to give them some words of encouragement."

The Blue Jays were in a good position in the begin-

ning until something went wrong.

"No matter where you were you could see somebody on my team, so I had a feeling we were doing it," senior Annie Monagle said.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
The Hopkins women were the only team to put five runners in the top 50.

"Actually when I passed Holly, that was the first time I thought it was a little worrisome because I don't think I've ever passed her in a race."

Clarke was not feeling well at the starting line, and a little over halfway into the race, her "body went into shock."

"I don't remember much of the race from

5k to the medical tent," Clarke said. "During the race I was in fifth place until the 4k, and at that point I just dropped farther and farther back. My entire body tightened up, which screwed up my running

stride. Probably the worst I've ever felt during a cross race before."

Oneda would lead the Blue Jays with a fourth place finish overall—the program's best finish in NCAA championship history.

"I get to the finish line and I can barely move, so I grab a chair and sit down," Oneda said.

"Then I look up at the scoreboard, and nothing is there yet. My dad comes up to me, and all the parents are there and they're like, 'Good job!' Then I was like, 'No no no, did we win?' And they're like, 'Of course you did!' And I was like 'What?' And they're like, 'Wait wait wait, we don't know for sure, but of course you did!' And I was like, 'You can't do that!'"

Monagle and junior Frances Loeb would finish next at 14th and 15th overall, respectively. They would be followed by Clarke at 38th and junior Ashley Murphy at 46th.

Senior Abby Flock and freshman Tess Meehan were the final two Blue Jays to cross the line, coming in at 136th and 137th, respectively. Hopkins was the only team to place five runners in the top 50.

After the final runners finished, confusion ensued.

"I crossed the finish line, and Hannah was sitting on the side line just freaking out," Flock said. "Then Hannah, Tess and I walk over by the medical tent, but they wouldn't let us in to see [Clarke]. So

we're freaking out because we think Holly is dead, we're not sure if we won, and we just don't know what's going on."

It was only when Monagle found out the good news did everyone calm down.

"That's when I saw Bobby, and he was like, 'We did it!'" Monagle said. "So I gave him a big hug, and that's when everyone came over, and our whole Hopkins team went inside the medical tent, which you aren't supposed to do."

While the Blue Jays got kicked out of the tent, they would repeat as national champions, besting second place Williams College by 52 points and third place Middlebury College by 100 points.

Van Allen was named the National Women's Coach of the Year for the second year in a row.

Despite becoming the first repeat national champs since 2001, the team is already focusing on a possible three-peat. However, Oneda wants even more.

"We're becoming a dynasty," Oneda said. "I'm saying two down, two to go. I want to win all four years that I'm here."

Men's XC claim best finish in program history

By KYLE GILLEN
Staff Writer

At Hanover College, on the weekend of Nov. 23, the Hopkins men's cross country team competed in the NCAA Championships.

It was an exclamation point on a historic season for the Jays, as they achieved their highest ranking in team history — a tremendous achievement after such a rewarding and successful season. Hopkins was able to clinch their first ever Centennial Conference Title and Mid-east Regional title earlier in the year earning their way to the NCAAs. The Blue Jays clinched 11th place at the NCAA tournament with a total score of 355 points.

Senior Max Robinson, who finished 30th overall (25:19), led Hopkins during the event. He was also the first Blue Jay since 1991 to be selected as an All-American.

Robinson talked about the team's goals for the Championship. "Going into the race, we wanted to be in the top 10 and although we fell just short, it was such a big season overall for us that it was hard to be too upset," Robinson said.

The second Blue Jay to finish was senior Julian Saliani who finished 72nd overall with an impressive time of 25:44. The senior commented on how far the

team has come throughout his career at Hopkins.

"We had never made it before my sophomore year, and now making it three times in a row is awesome," he said. "And getting 11th when we never even

tain and leader.

"Max becoming an All American is amazing but not shocking. Last year, he was trying to become an All-American but fell short with a sub-par day at nationals," Saliani said.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Max Robinson finished off his senior season as an All-American runner.

cracked the top 20 was incredible. With our first ever centennial conference and Mid-east regional championships and the high national finish, it was easily our best season ever."

Other notable finishes included junior Austin Steckclair 107th (25:57), freshman Stefan Arnold 118th (26:02), sophomore Shaffer Ochstein 159th (26:18), senior Ryan Alvarez 211th (26:39) and junior Andrew Ceruzzi 214th (26:40).

Saliani spoke highly of Robinson, the team's cap-

"Since then, you could tell that his real goal this year was to have his best race ever and get that All-American honor. He's come so far since his freshman year and all of us were rooting for him to get in that top 35 and cement his career as the greatest Hopkins cross country runner. His hard work and perseverance helped inspire me and the entire team this season and we're so proud of him."

St. Olaf defeated the defending champions North

Central to capture the title. The individual champion was Connecticut College's Michael LeDuc with a 24:29 finish time.

The historic season was a high point for the program, but Saliani talked of the future success of the program. "Losing the seniors will be tough, but it should be manageable. Losing Max is huge, but Schaffer, Austin and Stefan have both had races this year that prove they can be just as elite in the years to come, along with Andrew Cerruzi and possibly Ryan Alvarez. I understand we are losing some talent this year, but I am confident we will continue our climb into becoming a national contender in years to come."

Robinson was also optimistic about the future of the talented team. "Moving forward, I would hope for this team to make it up onto the podium very soon. This team can be a top three team in the country in a couple years," he said.

Now with seniors like Robinson and Saliani leaving, the Jays will have to look to the young talent that the team possesses to lead them to a top 10 finish. With an impressive season under their belts, a historic playoff finish and another conference championship, the bar has been very high for the men's cross country team as they look ahead to next year.

Hopkins Water Polo finishes 9th at CWPA

Hopkins earns 2nd straight 20-win season

By DAVID RAUBER
Staff Writer

The eighth-ranked Blue Jays faced a familiar rival against George Washington Colonials in the opening match of the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Championship. Going into the match, the Blue Jays led the season series between the squads three games to one.

After the Colonials scored an early goal, Hopkins senior Wes Hopkins and sophomore Kevin Yee each scored goals to give the Blue Jays a 2-1 lead. The Colonials were able to answer with 16 seconds left in the first quarter to tie up the score. After a quiet second quarter, George Washington got back on top early in the third quarter. Freshman Matt Fraser scored a minute later to tie the match back up, but the back and forth scoring continued as the Colonials took the lead again late in the third quarter.

The Jays were unable to answer in the fourth quarter, and the Colonials advanced to the next round, while the Jays would face 12th ranked Fordham in the consolation bracket.

The Blue Jays responded well to the disappointing loss against George Washington with a big 11-8 victory over Fordham.

Led by a five point effort from sophomore Langdon Froomer and a hat trick from Fraser, the Jays were able to avoid elimination. Fordham was able to come within two goals of the lead at the end of the third quarter, but the Blue Jays quickly answered with two goals of their own early in the fourth quarter to hold the Rams off.

In goal, junior Danny Ovelar played two quarters, making seven saves while allowing four goals, while sophomore Erik Henrikson made two saves, allowing four goals in two quarters of action.

In the ninth-place match of the CWPA Championship the Jays defeated the Mercyhurst Lakers in an-

other convincing season-ending victory.

After a competitive first half, the Jays led by a score of 5-4. In the third quarter, the Jays pulled away, going on a 4-1 run to give them a 9-5 lead. The sides traded goals back and fourth in the fourth quarter, with the final score ultimately being 12-8.

The outstanding offensive display was led by a three goal performance from junior Johnny Beal along with two goal efforts from Froomer and senior Thomas de Lyon. After a disappointing first round exit, the Blue Jays were definitely pleased to end the season on a good note.

"There was definitely a lot of personal pride on the line in the Mercyhurst game," Froomer said. "It was the last game we were playing with our seniors and we had already lost to them once this year. We came out really aggressive and put the pressure on them."

The Blue Jays finished the season with a record of 21-10, finishing with at least 20 wins for the second year in a row and the third time in school history. Froomer also reflected on a few of the highlights of the season. "I'd say our biggest wins were against Harvard, MIT and Navy. Harvard and Navy had very strong teams this year, and it definitely put the East on notice that we were a team to worry about this year. MIT was more of a personal victory because it was our first game against our former assistant coach Ivan Ivovic who is now their head coach. We were really pumped for that game."

When asked about next season, Froomer seemed optimistic. "Although we lose three seniors and a lot of leadership with them, we have a lot of young talent, and I'm positive the upperclassmen next year will assume that leadership. Look for us to have a strong season next year."

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
Football	Water Polo	M. Basketball	M. Basketball
Nov. 23, 2013	Nov. 22-24, 2013	Nov. 29, 2013	Dec. 3, 2013
vs. Wesley	CWPA Championships	@ Claremont-Mudd	vs. Gettysburg
L, 29-24	2-1, 9th place	W, 67-65	L, 70-65
		Nov. 30, 2013	
		@ Pomono-Pitzer	
		L, 57-56	
W. Basketball	M. Cross Country	W. Cross Country	Women's Soccer
Nov. 30, 2013	Nov. 23, 2013	Nov. 23, 2013	Nov. 23, 2013
@ Messiah	@ NCAA Championships	@ NCAA Championships	NCAA Sweet 16
L, 70-66			@ Middlebury
Dec. 3, 2013	11th/32 (355 pts)	1st/32 (85 pts)	
vs. Gettysburg			L, 1-0
W, 69-59			

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK JIMMY HAMMER - MEN'S BASKETBALL

By ZACHERY OLAH
Staff Writer

Junior Jimmy Hammer, the basketball team's talented guard has been selected as *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week for his tremendous play through the beginning portion of the season. Hammer has played a major role in leading Hopkins to a 4-3 overall start against a very tough schedule thus far. He opened the season with one of the best games in the program's history when he put up an astounding 38 points. *The News-Letter* caught up with Jimmy to ask him a few questions about how the team plans to stay on track as conference play continues.

The News-Letter (N-L): Since the start of the season you have had a profound impact on your team. What else do you feel has led to such an effective beginning to the season?

Jimmy Hammer (JH): Our team worked really hard this offseason, and I feel this had a great impact on me. We worked in the weight room and on the court, and, so far, it has really paid off for me as well as the team.

N-L: Scoring 38 points in the season opener had to feel great. What allowed you to have such success that night?

JH: Well, our entire team played very well that night. We were really clicking. I received great screens from my teammates to help me get open,

and my teammates hit me with the ball at the right time to allow me to shoot. It was truly a great team effort, and I couldn't have done it without them.

N-L: How does the team feel about their play so far? What are the strong points and weak points that need to be improved upon?

JH: We feel we have played pretty well so far. We are currently 4-3 with the three losses coming from very good teams where we battled the entire game. We are 2-0 in conference, and both of those wins were blowouts so those wins are great confidence boosters for us. Our strong points have been sharing the ball, our defense, cutting our turnovers and our free throw shooting. We also have a very deep team where our bench players are making great contributions. Some weak points that need to be improved upon include our shooting and allowing teams to make runs on us where we then have to fight back to get close again.

N-L: Now that you're getting into conference play, how does your attitude change?

JH: Personally, I feel our attitude is the exact same. We go into every game knowing that it is a big game, and we need a win, and we play our hearts out. Conference games obviously mean more, and there definitely is much more intensity and desire to win the game in our

locker room; however, we want to win no matter what. The rivalries in conference are definitely more fun than non-con-



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Hammer leads Hopkins men's basketball with 16.3 ppg.

ference games, which make our conference games very fun to play.

N-L: What games do you anticipate being the biggest challenges in the near future?

JH: Dickinson, Franklin and Marshall and Muhlenberg are always tough tests, so those games will probably be our biggest challenges.

N-L: What personal goals do you have set for yourself for the remainder of the season?

JH: Really to just be the best player I can be and help my team in any aspect they need. Whether that is making shots, rebounding, distributing the ball, playing great defense, etc., I just need to be there for my team to help get the win.

N-L: Can you talk about some short term and long term goals for the team?

JH: A short-term goal is to just take one game at a time and try to win every game. We would like to finish off the first part of the season at 6-3 after

this week before our long winter break from Dec. 7 to Dec. 28 where we don't have any games. That would put us at 4-0 in the

conference and set us up nicely for the second part of the season. Long-term goals are obviously to win the conference and make it to the NCAA tournament. These have been our goals since the fall, and everybody takes these goals very seriously.

N-L: Basketball is clearly a team sport, has there been anybody else stepping up this season, and how has the team managed to come together this early in the season?

JH: Everybody has stepped up this season, not only our starters, but also our bench players. There have been games already this season where some of our starters were struggling, and some of our bench players have come in, played fantastic and helped the team win the game. I think we have great team chemistry. We honestly do everything together, and I think this is a big part of how we have managed to come together this early in the season. We also had great fall workouts that could be a huge contribution as well.

You can catch Jimmy and the rest of his team back in action this Saturday in Allentown, Pa. where they will take on Centennial Conference foe Muhlenberg.

1-1 record at Wells Classic for men's b'ball

By RACHEL COOK
Staff Writer

Instead of going home for Thanksgiving break, the Hopkins men's basketball team packed their bags and took their talents to southern California to compete in the Wells Classic. Arriving at the tournament with a 3-2 record, the Blue Jays were aiming to maintain a winning record. The team started their play on Friday night as the Blue Jays took on the Stags of Claremont Mudd-Scripps (CMS). Both teams were evenly matched as the game experienced 11 lead changes throughout.

Hopkins started off strong, as six different Blue Jays scored early on in the first half. Hopkins continued to control the game up until the 5:30 mark of the first period. As the half approached, the Stags stepped up their game and went on an 11-8 run putting them four points ahead of the Blue Jays at the end of the period. Keeping up the intensity, the Stags started off the second half strong maintaining the lead well into the second period.

The Blue Jays would tie the game at the 15:12 mark with a three point shot made by junior Jimmy Hammer. Following Hammer's three and a defensive stop, junior George Bugarinovic would knock down a two-point basket giving Hopkins the lead — the first of seven lead changes in the second period. With 13 seconds left in the game, Bugarinovic laid the ball in to put the Blue Jays ahead 65-62. With six seconds left after missing a three-point basket, CMS was in desperation and resorted to fouling sophomore Gene Williams in order to stop the clock.

With two seconds left on the clock, Williams would easily drain both free throws — not knowing how clutch they would end up being — right before CMS' Tyler Gaffaney knocked down a three at the buzzer. The Blue Jays would come out victoriously by a final score of 67-65. Bugarinovic tied his season-high of 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds, while Williams scored a career-high 16 points and dished five assists.

The following night, the Jays hit the court again facing the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens. Hopkins started off strong, draining three back-to-back shots from behind the arc to lead the Sagehens 9-7. After trading the lead nine more times, the Sagehens would tie the game up at 28-28 with 37 seconds left in the period. With three seconds left before the half, the Sagehens got a defensive rebound and drained a three at the buzzer and would lead the Jays 31-28 at the end of the period.

The Blue Jays would score first coming into the second half off of a layup from Bugarinovic. Pomona-Pitzer would retaliate with a 13-6 run, leading the Blue Jays 46-37 at the 11:30 mark. Hopkins cut their deficit to 52-57 at the 2:30 mark and would hold the Sagehens to a score of 57 for the remainder of the game. Sophomore Matt Chiusano laid the ball in with 33 seconds to go in the game to bring the score to 54-57. The Blue Jays had to foul five consecu-

tive times in order to put the Sagehens in the bonus and on the free throw line. The Sagehens missed the one-and-one opportunity allowing Williams to get a layup and add two more points on the board for the Blue Jays.

With Pomona-Pitzer leading 57-56 with two seconds left on the clock, Hopkins had no other choice but to foul. With one second left on the clock, Pomona-Pitzer missed the one-and-one and only allowed enough time for a defensive rebound by Bugarinovic. The Jays would fall to the Sagehens 57-56. Bugarinovic was the only Hopkins player to score in double digits with 12 points, while Hammer and sophomore Austin Vasiliadis both added nine points for the Blue Jays.

The Blue Jays finished the tournament with a record of 1-1 to bring their season record to 4-3, successfully maintaining a winning percentage in the first portion of the season.

Successful play from Hammer, Bugarinovic and Vasiliadis paced the Jays throughout their games in Calif., as the team fought hard and battled well in both matches.

The Jays did not have much time to rest after their weekend trip to the West Coast, as they returned to Baltimore to face off against the Gettysburg Bullets on Dec. 3 in Goldfarb Gymnasium. Unfortunately for the Jays, they fell into a deep hole halfway through the second half. Despite a tremendous rally that was led by Bugarinovic and sophomore Niko Kotoulas, the Bullets outlasted the Jays, 70-65, sending the Jays to their second straight loss. The loss marked the first loss in conference play for Hopkins as they fell to 4-4 on the season.

The two teams were matched very evenly, as they continued to exchange leads throughout the majority of the first half. Hopkins went on a 10-4 run early to hold an early advantage but saw the lead erased as the Bullets stormed back with a big run of their own. The Blue Jays cut the Gettysburg lead to four just before the end of the half until the Bullets ended the half with a big dunk from Cody Keifer to secure a 42-34 lead going into halftime.

Gettysburg carried the momentum into the second half pushing their lead to 14 points with four minutes left in the third quarter. While Hopkins was able to hold the Bullets to just 10 points in the final quarter, their late surge was not enough to overcome the deficit and they came up just short. Bugarinovic once again led the Blue Jays in points with 16 and also contributed with nine rebounds. Sophomores Gene Williams and Matt Billups combined for 23 points for the Jays.

Despite the tough loss to Gettysburg, the Blue Jays look poised and confident on the court and are looking forward to taking on future conference opponents. Hopkins will return to the court this Saturday, as they travel to Allentown, Pa. to face off against the Muhlenberg Mules. The game is scheduled to start promptly at 2 p.m. in the Memorial Gym.



GUIHUBNER/PHOTO STAFF
Bugarinovic led the way with 16 points.

Women's B'ball remains undefeated in CC

By MITCH WEAVER
Staff Writer

On Nov. 30, the Hopkins women's basketball team paid a trip to Messiah College for a post-Thanksgiving matchup. In a gritty, tough and tight battle, the Lady Jays came up just short dropping the game 70-66. While Hopkins was unsuccessful in claiming the win, the score tells the story of a team that would not give up even when faced with some major adversity.

Needless to say, it was a rough start for Hopkins: The Lady Jays trailed the Falcons 35-22 at halftime. However, during the break, something changed dramatically when the Lady Jays came out for the second half. The team showed great chemistry and refused to accept defeat. As a result of this new found motivation, Hopkins outscored Messiah 43-35 in the second half. Hopkins got off to a blistering start, going on an 11-0 run. The main perpetrator of this rally happened to be senior Fatuh Conteh. Conteh, the leading scorer for Hopkins in the match with 18 points, started the run with a three point play. The lead was cut to 10 thanks to freshman Rachel Cook with just under 11 minutes left to play.

Later, with just over seven minutes left on the clock, Conteh took charge again, bringing the Lady Jays within four of Messiah's lead, 52-48. With 2:14 left to play, Hopkins knotted the game up at 62. Shortly after, junior forward Haley Bush came through for the Jays, handing them their

first advantage of the half. Unfortunately, this was a short-lived lead, as Messiah pulled ahead by four once more. Because of an early 20-8 run by the Falcons, Hopkins was trying to play catchup the entire time.

Sophomore guard Liz Tommasi echoed the thoughts of her teammates by displaying a positive at-



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The Lady Jays topped the defending CC champs.

titude toward the game despite the fact that the Jays suffered the loss. "Well, I think that Saturday's game against Messiah was a really good test for us," Tommasi said. "The first half was shaky and not the type of game that we would have liked to be playing. But then in the second half, we came out and executed our offense and defense the way we knew how and proved to ourselves that we are good enough to be on the floor with a team like Messiah, and I think the first half we doubted ourselves." Tommasi commented on what she thought this game meant for the team going forward. "I think we left that game with more confidence in our team and a better understanding as to

what it takes to win and be our best," she said.

Although the game did not go the way that they wanted it to, the girls were taking the loss in stride. Sophomore point guard Katie Clark echoed Tommasi's comments on the game and was especially enthused with the second half and the implications they will have going forward. "I

thought that in our most recent game against Messiah, we didn't come out and play our game in the first half," Clark said. "By the time we settled in and started playing

our game in the second half, it was just a little too late. However, I do think that the way we played in the second half is a good indication of our ability as a team to compete with teams of the caliber that we are likely to see in NCAAAs. In looking forward, I think that our team has been improving every game and if we continue to work hard we will only improve from here on out."

The main takeaways from the Messiah game were clear: Performances like the second half will lead to victories against anyone. The Lady Jays showed their ability to bounce back, as they faced off against the Gettysburg Bullets, the defending Centennial Conference champions. Despite being the

underdog heading into the game, the Lady Jays rose above all expectations as they astonished the crowd in Goldfarb gym on Tuesday night, defeating the Bullets 69-59. With the victory, Hopkins improved to 5-2 on the season while remaining undefeated at 4-0 in Centennial Conference play.

Four different Lady Jays finished in double digits for points with senior Alyssa Fleming leading the way with 15. Conteh also played a large role in the success of the Jays, as she posted her second double-double of the season with 10 points and 10 rebounds. The victory marked the fourth in a row for Hopkins in conference play and the Lady Jays show no signs of slowing down.

A key turning point in the game was when Gettysburg came within four points of tying the game with just under five minutes remaining in the game. However, the Jays rallied effectively by going on a 7-0 run to take a 60-49 lead with two and a half minutes remaining in the second half. The Bullets fought hard to get back into the game, but we're not able to overcome the big deficit.

Despite a tough loss to Messiah, the Lady Jays showed that they were able to put the past behind them effectively by storming past the conference champs. Hopkins will look to carry this momentum into their game today against Swarthmore. The Jays will take the court in Swarthmore, Pa. at 6 p.m., as they attempt to keep their unbeaten streak alive within the Centennial Conference.

SPORTS

Did You Know?

The men's cross country team finished 11th in the NCAA Championships, their highest finish in program history.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY
W. Basketball @ Swarthmore, 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
M. Basketball @ Muhlenberg, 2:00 p.m.
Wrestling vs. New Stand. Corp Invite, All Day

Lady Jays come up just short in Elite 8

By GAURAV VERMA
Staff Writer

Last week, the sixth ranked Hopkins Blue Jays faced off against the Williams Ephs and the Middlebury Panthers in NCAA tournament action. The Lady Jays triumphed 2-1 in a double overtime clash against #7 Williams in the Sweet Sixteen, but fell to #13 Middlebury in heart-breaking fashion, with the Panthers knocking Hopkins out of tournament play with a last minute goal to win 1-0.

The Lady Jays travelled to Middlebury, Vt. on Nov. 23 for their Sweet Sixteen matchup against Williams. Hopkins jumped to an early lead after freshman defender Adrienne Johnson completed a long pass to junior forward Hannah Kronick who was 40 yards away from goal. She then beat a defender and drove a ball past Williams' charging goalie for her 22nd goal of the 2013 campaign, putting Hopkins up 1-0 at the 29th minute.

The game remained tied until the waning moments of the match despite ample opportunities for both teams, in large part due to strong performances by Lady Jays goalie Kelly Leddy and her Williams' counterpart Hannah Van Weter. Still, with just over two minutes left to play, the Ephs equalized the score at one, ending Leddy's shutout streak at 11 games. The game remained tied through two periods of overtime, until with 22 seconds remaining in the second overtime period, senior forward Kelly Baker converted on a cross from senior midfielder Christina Convey to give Hopkins the lead with little time left to play.

Following Williams' late equalizer, Johnson said the team "just came together and knew what we had to do. . . We had to put everything on the line and give 100% effort in order to win. They had high energy coming into the first overtime however, once we took control of the game and held the majority of the possession and created numerous opportunities, we put the pressure on them to keep us out of their net and the energy they had went away."

The following day, the Lady Jays faced off against the Middlebury Panthers in a tightly contested battle in frigid conditions at Middlebury with the temperature of 25 degrees and 25

MPH wind making it feel close to zero. Hopkins held the Panthers without a shot in the first half while generating a good number of scoring chances. The Lady Jays were able to win five corners and had a number of scoring opportunities thwarted by defenders at the last moment. Still, Hopkins failed to capitalize on these opportunities, and the score was tied at zero going into the half.

With the wind against their back, the Panthers turned the tables in the second half, generating 10 shots, while forcing Leddy to make seven saves. Hopkins, on the other hand, was held to only five shots and was shutout for the first time this season. The team's tournament run and 12-game unbeaten streak ended when Scarlett Kirk converted on a scoring opportunity with just 17 seconds left on the clock leaving the Lady Jays with no time to equalize.

Johnson commented that, despite losing, she felt that the Jays were the better team. "We had the majority of the possession, more chances, and better play overall than our opponents," she said. She continued on to say that luck was not on the side of the Lady Jays. "Sometimes the best team doesn't always win," she said.

Still, Johnson said that she was extremely proud of the team's effort, saying that it was "the best team I've ever played on." She said that the team hopes to build off the incredibly successful campaign this year. "We all want to win a national championship; that is something no one on our team needs motivation for, so next year we just have to get it done which I am confident we will."

The Lady Jays ended the season at 21-2-1, which tied the highest win total in team history. The Panthers move on to the Final Four to face off against the Trinity University Tigers (Texas) for the chance to move on to the championship game. Despite the disappointing end to the season, the Lady Jays had an incredibly successful season and made Hopkins proud. Several individual and program records were set, and the Jays proved that they are a force to be reckoned with. Hopefully the team will be able to further their success in the 2014 campaign and look towards claiming an NCAA National Championship.

Women's Cross Country Repeats as Champs!



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Stalwart runner sophomore Hannah Oneda led the Blue Jays at the NCAA Championships with a fourth place finish. However, the title was a complete team effort as Annie Monagle, Frances Loeb and Holly Clarke followed up Oneda to give Hopkins back-to-back titles in women's cross country. Please see Page B10 for full coverage.

Men's X-Country: Program best 11th

Not to be outdone by the women, the men's cross country runners finished 11th at the NCAA Championships, the team's best finish in program history. **Page B10**

Athlete of the Week: Jimmy Hammer

Junior guard Jimmy Hammer picked up right where he left off from his 2012 senior. Hammer leads Hopkins with 16.3 ppg while shooting 0.476 from the field. **Page B11**

Men's Basketball: Thanksgiving Trip

The men's basketball team went all the way to southern California over Thanksgiving break to play in the Wells Classic. The team split the tournament 1-1. **Page B11**

INSIDE

INSIDE

Football falls in final seconds to Wesley

By ERICK SUN and
JASON PLUSH
Sports Editors

In the most highly-anticipated game of the season, the bleachers at Homewood Field were packed with passionate fans as the eighth-ranked Hopkins football team welcomed the Wesley Wolverines in an NCAA first round playoff game. As the Jays took the field, the roaring crowd certainly gave them momentum heading into the critical playoff matchup. In a game that had five lead changes, unbelievable touchdowns and a lot of excitement, the Jays were eliminated from playoff contention as the Wolverines scored a crucial touchdown with 13 seconds to play.

The game was a gritty battle throughout, as neither team ever led by more than by nine points. Wesley was the first to get on the board, as they marched down the field after the opening kickoff going 14 plays and 70 yards that concluded with a five-yard touchdown pass to receiver Steve Koudossou. While the fans were slightly silenced by the touchdown, the Blue Jays immediately stormed back down the field, maintaining a 13-play, 75-yard drive of their own.

Senior running back J.D. Abbott polished off the drive with a fourth-and-goal conversion from the one yard line. The ensuing extra point knotted the game at 7-7.

Just a minute and a half into the second quarter, the Blue Jays found themselves pinned inside their own defensive 20 yard line. However, big plays from the defensive line and linebackers thwarted the Wesley offense from a first down. As a result, Wesley was forced to settle for a field goal to go up 10-7 early in the second quarter.

However, the lead was short-lived for the Wolverines as the Jays refused to

give up. The offensive line led the Jays down the field on a drive that included key passes from senior quarterback Robbie Matey. On first and goal from the four-yard line, freshman running back Stuart Walters shiftily ran his way into the end zone to regain the lead for the Jays.

The pattern of constantly changing leads continued

Wolverines on a quick scoring drive after finding Koudossou on a 10-yard corner route.

On the following drive, needing to put points on the board, Matey drove the Blue Jays 52 yards to the Wolverines' eight yard-line to give freshman kicker Nick Campbell a chip-shot, 25-yard field goal to bring the score to 23-20 with 10



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Wesley managed some late-game heroics to stun the Homewood crowd.

towards the end of the first half as Wesley was able to put together another impressive drive down into the red zone. On third down from the 16-yard line, Wolverine quarterback Joe Callahan found receiver Kyle George in the corner of the end zone as the duo connected for a touchdown. Storck kicked the extra point to give Wesley the 17-14 lead. The Jays were able to gain a couple of big first downs on their last possession before halftime but couldn't manage to get deep enough into Wesley's territory to attempt a field goal.

After a back-and-forth first half, which saw Wesley holding onto a slim 17-14 lead, the start of the second half saw both team defenses make critical adjustments for a scoreless third quarter.

However, Wesley quickly opened their lead early in the fourth quarter to 23-14, as Callahan led the

minutes in the game. The drive was fueled by three third down conversions, including a 3rd-and-eight and a critical 3rd-and-13 where Matey found freshman receiver Bradley Munday for a 15-yard gain.

With the game within a single score, the final 10 minutes would prove to be a back-and-forth affair, with 10 possession changes and two touchdowns scored.

After forcing a Wesley punt, Hopkins would then surrender the ball back to the Wolverines on an interception by Derrick Bender. Taking over deep in Blue Jays territory, Wesley was unable to mount a successful drive as the Hopkins defense stuffed the Wolverines to turn the ball over on downs.

On the next Wesley possession, the Hopkins defense once again stopped Wesley to force a punt. As Wolverines punter Ryan

Gerlitz received the snap, his punt shanked off of his foot and came sailing back behind the line of scrimmage. With the ball bouncing around, a Hopkins player touched the ball, creating a live-ball situation in which Wesley was able to recover the fumble and maintain possession.

Despite the setback, the Blue Jays were able to take the field on offense at their own 46 with 1:48 left in the game.

In five plays, Hopkins would punch in a go-ahead touchdown with a 10-yard pass from Matey to Wodicka for a 24-23 lead, leaving Wesley with just 50 seconds on the clock.

The Hopkins faithful were on their feet, feeling good as their Blue Jays took the lead and pinned the Wolverines on their own 18 on the ensuing kickoff. However, their fervor would soon be quieted by a thunderous drive from Wesley.

Opening up with a 36-yard completion to Koudossou, Wesley quickly moved up the field against the Blue Jays defense. Then, with just 13 seconds remaining Callahan found Koudossou once again for a 33-yard touchdown catch to give Wesley a stunning 29-24 win.

On the day, Matey finished 22-33 for 194-yards, one touchdown, and one interception, while Walters would lead the rushing attack with 97-yards and a touchdown. With his three catches for 59-yards, Wodicka set the all-time record for catches in Hopkins football history. In his four years Wodicka has 260 receptions.

The loss capped off yet another season in which Hopkins football has dominated the regular season but fallen short in the NCAA Tournament. The team will look to regroup in 2014 as they say goodbye to a talented senior class.



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Hopkins women's soccer team finished out the season 21-2-1